

MACLEAN'S

UP IN FLAMES

B.C.'s long, fiery and perilous summer

BACKLASH

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UNDER ATTACK

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"Paul Martin has promised so much we could eventually see the government's costly executive jets replaced with a fleet of flying pigs." —ALAN MORGAN, Calgary

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: letters@maclean.ca

Great expectations

Paul Martin is proud to have slashed the deficit, albeit on the backs of the provinces, health care and national security ("Paul Martin, PM," Cover, Aug. 18). Many Canadians, however, do not realize this while he was cutting essential services he continued to fund mismanagement and waste as exemplified by the RCMP fiasco, the gun registry cost-overruns and the advertising scandal. The answer to your question on the cover, "What kind of PM will Paul Martin be?" is easy: another aging secular PM from Quebec favouring big government, high taxes, programmed and uncontrolled immigration, indifferent to national defence and security, and he'll spend jobs of money to keep the Liberals from getting re-elected humiliated.

Leslie Bisset, Ontario

Last year I was an organizer for one of Paul Martin's town-hall meetings. Paul Wilton, featured in his article, Pines and Ivenson, the guest list was not vetted or compiled by anyone within Martin's inner circle. It was a cross-section of business people, long with us in community and neighbourhoods. We even included two local high school students who expressed an interest in attending. Martin answered all the questions that were asked of him in a deliberate and insightful manner. I wish you had painted a little silver picture.

Marlene Koth, Sarnia, Ont.

As a long-time Liberal, I feel certain that Paul Martin will be a much better PM than Chrétien. But then again, that would not be hard to do considering all the summed things Chrétien has done over the years. Martin needs to get rid of Chrétien's old cronies and renew the Liberal Party. A certain loose approach to government certainty will be a refreshing change.

Rob Agnew, Vancouver, B.C.

When Paul Martin ascends to his post for the first time in November it will represent a new era in Canadian politics. We will have three



right-wing parties in Parliament. With "Liberal" backbenchers sounding alarmingly like Alliance members—opposing virtually every major, commonsense legislative act for siding up to the U.S.—the chance for social progressivism is becoming more and more distant. I will be voting more of my fellow under-35 Red Liberals in voting for Jack Layton in the next federal election.

Dever Jenkins, Toronto

Shame on the editors of page and page about the past and future of just one of the candidates for the leadership of the Liberal Party of Canada. Sheila Copps was well and dignified in her presentation. She deserves better. But Maclean's cartoons are rude and ugly. Paul

VIDEO GAMERS WHO SPEND ALL THOSE HOURS IN SHUTTERED ROOMS, STARRING AT THE SCREEN? Well, they have feelings, too. Tim Bowrin writes from Calgary to express dismay at the illustration accompanying our article on older game players ("The grey market," Business, Aug. 30).

"The zombie-like skin, red eyes, skull motif clothing and pizza-box strewn room of the man in the drawing," he complains, "imply that all gamers are ultimately disturbed, Satan-worshipping beasts."

Well, calls her candidacy "poor." We should be helping Canadians see the choice, based on the debate, test out the potential leaders, not insulate under to make life easier for the big guy.

Pauline Ray, Calgary

How much did Paul Martin pay for that eight-page campaign ad?
Paul Jern, Mississauga, Ont. Arts

My brother and I met Paul Martin at a liberal convention five years ago, when I was 23. We were expecting a simple "hello" and "nice to meet you," but instead we were asked questions about what we felt was important to our generation. We talked for 30 minutes about youth, education and nursing union fees. I hope your insight into the Martin juggernaut will allow others to see what we witnessed that day in Ottawa—a politician who listens, supports and leads.

Lesley Bisset, Ontario, Ont.

Percentage pain

In your "Off the charts" listing of census trivia (Cover, Aug. 18) you named Markham, Ont., as the municipality with the highest percentage of visible minorities. In fact, Scarborough and the 2004 Census show Richmond, B.C., a suburb of Vancouver, as the highest at 60 per cent.

David Andrews, Langley, B.C.

Wrinkles rule

Allan Greag's "Aging is aging does" (Cover, Aug. 18) is outstanding in style as well as substance. "Bulking of the baby-boom generation's refusal to act old, my wife and I, both in our 50s, went gem-selling hundreds of feet over the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Mexico last March. Besides having an absurdly awesome experience, we were tickled pink at the curious glances of Mexicans on the beach trying to screw encouragement to do the same. No, don't count us out, not for a long while yet."

George Anandis, Winnipeg

Peter's pluggage

Since our community had power back on in four hours, I was flipping channels the night of the Big Blackout. I passed when I saw Peter Marshall's newscast on the CBC. While I wasn't a beard-and-moustache kind of man, I was very taken with his manly look. Maybe it was the dramatic lighting that

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enveloped him or the excitement of the moment, but it killed my husband on the TV and questioned, "Look at Peter Mansbridge! He has a beard! Wow! I've never seen him look so tiny!" To which my husband raised an eyebrow and replied, "Really?" I later read in "The joys of summer" (Mansbridge on the Record, Aug. 18) how last year he shaved it off 15 minutes before air time. Personally, I think his look caught the essence of the moment, we were relaxed, enjoying our summer and taking in one of the latest challenges presented to us.

Melinda M. Ball, Cambridge Ont.

Conversations of love

I love Maclean's and provide an equally biased interview with someone holding a diametrically opposed view to gay rights as their John Fisher's biased opinions. Some MPs are out of touch. Q&A, Aug. 18) Among other things, Fisher clearly does not have adequate knowledge concerning the religious he refers to, nor is the "bible war in the courts."

W's Kargman, Smithers B.C.

In the darker days of our civilization, homosexuals were forced to live the lie that they were the same as everyone else. Medical science has revealed evidence that homosexuality is a genetic variation. This has helped to transfer guilt to those whose uprightness and fear projects unacceptable crimes against a helpless minority. Today this guilt is helping to lead a substantial portion of our population to another neglected crime—against truth and our language. A "sublimated" marriage (a proposal to correct wrongs against same-sex couples, enough that are simply disappearing through the due process of law. How can forcing everyone to live a new lie, that same-sex unions are "the same as everyone else," do anyone any good?

Victor M. Andrusch, Coquitlam B.C.

When it comes to marriage, we must remember that the Church has had absolutely nothing to do with the traditional definition. That was around for thousands of years before religions appeared, and has been adopted by men such as Clinton and Soviet Russia that, being completely atheistic, would not have taken orders from any religion. None defined marriage as being between two men or two women. That defini-



Fisher's remarks cause readers' MacLeans

tion belongs to the strange concoction of three countries, each being one of them, although ours is the only one where "lawful" judges decided to redefine marriage at the behest of a tiny minority.

M.L. Waples-McGill, Cobalt, Ont.

Church and state

You reported that "at least 789 children were sexually abused by 158 priests and church workers in Boston's Catholic archdiocese over the past 63 years" (The Week, Aug. 4). In the most recent you wrote of the Vatican's public statements and fire warnings about the evils of same-sex marriage, and quoted Bishop Jean-Louis Sicilic in telling Paul Martin to bring "truly schizophrenic" ("The Vatican turns up the heat under same-sex marriage," The Week, Aug. 11). Let's see if I understood this: Heinous, disgusting and abusive crimes are committed against hundreds of children and many members of the clergy are conspicuously sane, while others offer hollow self-serving sympathy. Concerning adults want to participate in a public ceremony and there is no victory, including threats and accusations. Holy hypocrisy!

Mark Setton, Brandon Man.

John F. Kennedy, when he was about to become the first Catholic president of the United States, stated, "I believe as an American where no Catholic prelate would tell the President, should he be Catholic, how to act, and no Protestant minister would tell his parishioners for whom to vote." Four decades later, and not only in the U.S., that notion is far from realized. It is a sad day, at

the year 2003, when one might reasonably ask if it is time to deny religious funds to Catholics, be they Catholic, Protestant or whatever, the right to hold public office. Ed Gilbert, Collingwood Ont.

Ooh, makes me wonder

I am a 36-year-old woman—too young to have experienced Led Zepplin as a hot new thing, but old enough (and girl enough) that Starway to Heaven was my favourite song through most of high school. In their essays on the band's flame ("Roused sales and a whole lotta love," *Essays*, Aug. 4), Peter Kopeckien and Jonathan Durbin caught the last, but missed the romance. Picture a gold-eyed young rock and holding out his hand and singing, "Hey, lady, you got the love I need." In real life, it would never work—I mean, lady? And who could ever trust a man with that much love, such a very exposed chest, and pants not so low? But it wasn't about real life, it was about fantasy. Yes, pink anal! I've got the love you need! Led Zepplin appeals to the part of us recognized by G.M. Lawrence when he wrote of "the blood, the flesh, as being wiser than the intellect."

Sally Humphrey, Victoria

Hateous and disputed

In his letter ("Duke on the West Bank," The Mail, Aug. 4), Leon Schmitzovich vilifies Israeli colonization of the West Bank, particularly those of Jewish, as families who drove Palestinian families from a village last October. In glorifying the Palestinians, Schmitzovich does not mention the massacre on June 20, 2002. A Palestinian terrorist slaughtered 30 babies and their other children, wounded two of his other children and killed a neighbour who came to rescue them. This was hideous even by the grisly standards of Palestinian terrorism.

Isaac Mendelovic, Toronto

I would like to protest the use of the word "disputed" to describe the Palestinian territories conquered and brutally and illegally occupied by Israel ("Words, Gums and Arguments," *World*, July 21). This designation fits UN resolutions and other internationally accepted views of the status of these lands. Even the most experienced and repressive prime minister of Israel, Ariel Sharon, has acknowledged that Israel is occupying them in Palestine.

Patrick Mahood, Toronto

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MACLEAN'S BEHIND THE SCENES



THE SPIRIT OF CHAMPIONS

Special Olympians know all about overcoming obstacles. While dealing with a mental disability, they devote hundreds of hours to athletic training every year, often holding down full-time jobs while running households.

But Canada's Special Olympians had to surmount an unexpected hurdle in the form of SARS on the road to the 2003 World Games in Dublin in June. The earlier World Health Organization (WHO) travel advisory warning against visits to Toronto jeopardized a full year of preparation and threw the plans of athletes, coaches and family members into chaos for several weeks. "Things looked grim when the Irish government announced that countries as the WHO's affected list would be banned from the games," says John Byrne, program coordinator with Special Olympics Canada (SOC). "For several weeks we were in wait-and-see mode, despite the fact that no athletes or coaches lived in Toronto."

Eventually, negotiations with the Irish health ministry succeeded, and the Canadian team (56 athletes, 23 coaches and media staff, plus 11 family members) was cleared to travel on June 15.

Meanwhile, team members rallied in the face of adversity, notes Byrne, (above, with gym team members, including Ada Chen, front left, who was sponsored by Maclean's. For the past 15 years, Maclean's has been a SOC communications partner). "The team really pulled together. All the preparation—mental, as well as physical—paid off with people showing phenomenal strength of mind and resilience."

The athletes received a tremendous reception in Ireland, where they were billeted in the town of Enniscorthy prior to the start of the games. That was followed by the spectacular opening ceremonies at Dublin's Croke Park, attended by U2, Nelson Mandela, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Muhammad Ali.

The nine days of competition that followed were hugely successful, with the Canadian athletes surpassing their goals and achieving personal bests in all seven sports. "We brought home 162 medals," says Byrne. "The athletes weren't satisfied just to be there—for them, this was the thrill of a lifetime and nothing less than their best would do."

To learn more about Special Olympics Canada, visit www.specialolympics.ca.
For further information about this article, contact: behindthescenes@macleans.ca.

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THEWEEK



Middle East | Carnage trumps ceasefire

The ceasefire went off within hours of each other—at the UN headquarters in Baghdad and on crowded American battlefields. With them, the best-laid plans for order in the Middle East went up in a billow of red-black smoke. Of the two, it was hard to say which was worse. Cranking a truck full of explosives into the main building of the UN's Iraq mission and killing 24 shocked the civilized world. Among the victims, two Canadians and workers who were the very symbol of all that was hopeful in a region cursed by ancient hatreds.

But the suicide attack in Israel was equally heinous. Not only was the carnage common—35 dead, including six children, and over 100 injured—but the attack was carried out by a team of the cloth. Head Monk was a 29-year-old preacher at a mosque in London. On Tuesday evening he said good-bye to his wife and two young children, donned a vest of dynamite, and, in his honor, the symbol of an Orthodox Jew, and then blew himself up on a bus in Jerusalem.

Monk does not fit the usual profile of the suicide bomber as a disaffected young man



from the refugee camps. But the new reality is that profile is changing, as young widows of Chechen Muslims turn themselves into human bombs in Russia and a growing army of Islamic militants from over 200 sects converge on Iraq in a potent mix of fanaticism and territorial pride.

At first, Hamas, the largest Palestinian group, disavowed the importance of the bombing as a case of regional. But when Israeli air squadrons bombed the mosque that killed Hamas founder Ahmad Yassin and two associates in Gaza City, Palestinian militants shouted an end to the seven-week "cease-fire"—one that had been marked more by dead bodies, 35, than real diplomacy.

From the refugee camps. But the new reality is that profile is changing, as young widows of Chechen Muslims turn themselves into human bombs in Russia and a growing army of Islamic militants from over 200 sects converge on Iraq in a potent mix of fanaticism and territorial pride.

ScoreCard

Y Smokeless: With 332 smokers a day—some caused by cigarette-tobacco funds are built of disease. Smoking bans are still in dry winter areas, including Vancouver's Stanley Park. Could this be the first step to a new smoking province?

Y Jean Charest: Put to rest Paul Martin and, worse, the country with promise to leave it weeks earlier than expected. Then he's off the weeks-to-end of February. Rigger questions for someone who wouldn't be heard during power blackout, how is anyone to know when he's left the building?

Y Colonial Roads: Envoys shareholders by according \$12 million of Halving money to personal papers of the late Dr. Roosevelt—subject of Road's new book. University to do Harry Truman "black shops here" code in the loss without a company card.

Y Brenda Chamberlain: Gail's last, we sawing Leland's who rise to US drug courts officer to complete about 100 cases prior to decision on the post. She says, story told to media to make his group look bad. Know what it's worth.

A Sleep and Sleep: Province orders Home. Scott and Sam to stop using human sewage sludge as fertilizer. Ontario out these owners in court. Who put nightmarish slugs out of sight?

Quote of the week | 'Uncle Georgie is fit as anything. He walks and runs every day. He's the most upset that he lost his boat.'

Now 80-year-old, he's the most upset that he lost his boat. **PHIL ELLIOTT,** owner of George's Boat, 75, forced to leave his 80-year-old boat after his boat capsized on Cape Breton's St. John's Bay—a five-hour ordeal.

WORLD

WORM WEE! A weeklong outbreak of two computer worms and an e-mail-bogging virus called SoBig crashed computer systems across corporate North America. One of the hackers for was Air Canada, which was forced to cancel flights and endure angry customers as its check-in system tanked. The airline also had to divert a Toronto-based plane to Iceland after smoke was detected in the passenger cabin.

HAI! WAVE! President Jacques Chirac ordered an inquiry into France's clambled health system, particularly in care of the elderly, after a three-week heat wave claimed the lives of nearly 14,000, according to an estimate by the country's biggest undertaker. The European heat wave also forced Canada's border to recall 700 British troops whose air conditioning couldn't cope with the constant 40° C temperatures.

INTERLUDE David Kelly, the weapons expert whose suicide in July has sparked a judicial inquiry in Britain, told a diplomat friend months ago he would "probably be found dead in the woods." The reason, however, was not for talking to reporters about the Blair government's allegedly unforced ease for war, but rather the fact that he had maintained contact with arms people in Saddam Hussein's regime and had warned them there would be no war if they co-operated with UN inspectors.

AFRITES Britain arrested former Iranian ambassador to Argentina, Hafez Solaimani, to be extradited for his alleged role in the 1994 bombing of a Jewish community centre in Buenos Aires that killed 85. Serbian authorities have now indicted 44 people in the assassination of reformer Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic in March.

AMERICAN JUSTICE The Chicago-based director of a Muslim charity was sentenced to 11 years in prison for defrauding charities by diverting as much as \$400,000 to Islamic fighters in Chechnya and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The judge dismissed prosecution convictions that he was also a financier of al-Qaeda.

U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft launched a cross-country campaign to defend a new Patriot Act that would allow secret



WHALING Sailing in the face of an international ban on commercial whaling and threatened U.S. trade sanctions, Iceland launched a three-boat expedition to cull 38 minke whales, ostensibly for the scientific purpose of documenting what they eat. Here, another first: 14 years in Icelandic waters, a whaler cuts open a juvenile minke whose meat will be sold at market.

arms and overstepping in the fight against terrorism. About 150 U.S. congressmen passed resolutions condemning the proposed law for infringing civil liberties.

West Virginia police were unsure if they were dealing with a drug war or a coppat war after three people were killed and another shot from long range at local pub bars and convenience stores.

LATIN AMERICA Taking a page from California, night-wingers in Venezuela took to the streets and prosecuted a person with three

million signatures seeking to recall socialist President Hugo Chavez.

SINGAPORE Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong pledged to step down within two years to make way for Lee Hsien Loong, son of founder Lee Kuan Yew.

LATTE TAX Coffee-sipping Seattle residents are in a froth over a referendum proposal for a 15-cent levy on all espresso coffees. The revenues are to go to education programs for pre-school children, Starbucks and other



The Medical Posting



Pregnancy an escape for teenage girls living in poverty

Teenage girls who buy home pregnancy tests are often worried, about being pregnant, according to a Colorado study. Study author Lisa Kelly, a social worker from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver, says these girls tend to live in poorer households and experience abuse and neglect at home.

Among 340 girls ages 10 to 19 years who were surveyed at a teen clinic, the 28 per cent who had used a home pregnancy test were less motivated to avoid pregnancy than non-users and were more apt to report they had not used contraception during their last intercourse.

Kelly says the girls were racially and

ethnically diverse, but resided in five or poorer households.

Girls who had used a home pregnancy test were more likely to refuse contraceptive during their clinic visit and were more likely to remain at risk for pregnancy over the next year due to ongoing unprotected sex.

West Nile virus now biggest blood transfusion risk

West Nile virus is becoming the most common viral infection transmitted by blood transfusion in North America.

Based on the U.S. experience in 2002, members at the Congress for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that one in 34,000 units of donated blood will contain the virus. The low estimate for Canada is one per 150,000 units. "It's very, very high risk" according to Canadian Blood Services. In fact, the risk is higher than that of hepatitis, HIV or other viral infections.

In 2002, there were 22 recorded cases of transfusion-acquired West Nile virus in the U.S. and four in Canada. This is fewer than the estimates would suggest.

FYI In 2003, prostate cancer will continue as the leading form of cancer diagnosed in Canadian men, with an estimated 18,800 new cases. But lung cancer will remain the leading cause of cancer death in Canadian men. The estimated 10,900 lung cancer deaths far exceed the 4,400 deaths due to colorectal cancer and the 4,200 deaths due to prostate cancer.

(Source: National Cancer Institute of Canada, Canadian Cancer Society 2003)

but there was no testing done at that time and it's thought that 80 per cent of infections don't produce symptoms. Canadian Blood Services began testing donated blood for West Nile virus on July 1, 2003.

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THEWEEK



RANSOMED Fourteen European "infiltrator tourists," five Germans, four Swedes and a Dutchman, shown here at Mali's presidential palace, returned home to political controversy after being held hostage at the Sahara desert by Algerian militants for six months. Germany vehemently denied it paid a ransom to the abductors, an Islamic group with alleged links to al-Qaeda. But Libyan diplomats said Tripoli paid the equivalent of \$7.5 million "on its own initiative" to resolve the crisis. An earlier group of 17 abducted tourists were freed by Algerian commandos in May.

Seattle businesses are also opposing the popular proposal as a disastrous move that might someday be expanded to other heavy items like bottled water.

WAVES A marauding wolf pack is being blamed for a death of six children in north-central Mali. Most were crushed while sleeping in the company of their dead huns.

CANADA

SECURITY PROBE RCMP and Ontario police arrested 19 Muslims, almost all from the Tampa in Pakistan, on suspicion of terrorism. The seven-month investigation concluded

that several of those arrested called themselves students but were not taking classes and had no obvious support. One was enrolled in a fight school and was making training. **DIGHS** over the Pickering nuclear power station near Toronto.

CRIME In a murder inside, a Newfoundland doctor and his infant son were found drowned on a beach near St. John's. Dr. Shirley Turner had been appealing extradition to Paraguay on charges of murdering her former lover.

After plowing into a group leaving a bar in St. John's, north of Montreal, a 39-year-old man drove away with a young man on

backed in the windshield. Friends gave chase and an hour later forced the car off the road, but the 18-year-old man died.

Charged with attempted murder, three teenage girls from Sylva Lake, Alta., pled guilty to a lesser charge of administering a noxious substance by applying a civil's slush with copper sulphate from science class. They face up to 16 months in a correctional facility.

PRICES The annual inflation rate dropped in July to 2.2 per cent, the lowest in a year, leading to speculation that the Bank of Canada will cut interest rates into next meeting in early September.

LEGGING Josef Strass, the 57-year-old former sporting founder of JDB Upholstery Corp., the Canadian fibre optics giant that went on a wild boom and bust ride during the tech boom, is returning. His company downsize as the company's economic link to Canada as power now shifts to its San Jose, Calif., headquarters. A firm co-owned's guard of about 500 employees it left in Ottawa, down from 10,000 in its heyday.

WATER Saskatchewan and the city of North Battleford reached a \$3.2-million settlement with 700 residents who became violently ill after the city's water supply was affected by a problem in 2001. No one died in the matter, but court documents showed North Battleford failed to test its water properly and had broken treatment plant two kilometers downstream at its sewage plant.

HEALTH

PARADISE New York City's coroner borrowed a hole in the head of a 55-year-old Parkinson's sufferer and shipped in billions of copies of a corrective gene in the first attempt at a genetic solution for the debilitating disease. Twelve patients have signed up for the highly experimental treatment.

HARLEM British authorities announced nationwide hospital visits to gauge the year-relieving effectiveness of marijuana.

BURNOUT Nearly half of Canadian doctors feel emotionally exhausted by their profession, and 17 per cent of teaching doctors have contemplated suicide, according to surveys by the Canadian Medical Association and University of Ottawa researchers.



Mansbridge on the Record



TUNING OUT THE DEAD

American soldiers keep dying in Iraq—but no one seems to want to hear that

IT MUST BE a very long and very quiet 48 hours—the time it takes to fly a giant United States air force C-5 aircraft from Baghdad through a series of stops to its final destination Dover, Del. When the C-5 stops up to one of the hangars, a six-person guard of honor awaits, politely holding American flags, each carefully folded and soon to be draped over the plane's cargo—long aluminum cases.

Direct is home to the Charles C. Carson Center for Military Affairs—the largest Department of Defense Military IT's where America brings its dead soldiers home, and these days, it's busy. Normally, seven people work at the center, until March, when the Iraq war began, there have been as many as 200 on staff. On May 1, George W. Bush, after landing on an aircraft carrier off the California coast, declared major combat operations over—but in the military, administrators keep arriving, likely at a rate of one a day.

Staff members at the military are polite and helpful with phony questions they answer almost any question. Just don't ask whether Congress can be proved for the C-5 arrivals, because that's where they draw the line. Such images can have such an effect as to only emotion, but also support for a conflict that is dragging on much longer than many had expected. And at a cost in U.S. lives, now 255—and in dollars, now five times as the hundreds of billions.

One morning recently, before the attention press in the remote backwoods on the United Nations mission in Baghdad, I was surfing for more information about a new arrival of U.S. soldiers in Iraq. I watched too much on CNN but was stunned to see that the story, only a couple of hours old at that point, was relegated to a spot behind games of a day-old underdog boxing contest in Italy, and reported on a couple of pages exactly a day after the *America* shows the previous night. The networks may be

demanded across on some of these telling pictures of the dead arriving back in the United States, but even if they had them, you wonder whether they would give the story of Americans dying in Iraq any more prominence. There seems to be a certain uneasiness about the Iraq war that may be due to something else that's become apparent in the past few weeks. Viewers are shying away from news it's happening across the continent, across the network, and it's not just the traditional summer doldrums. News consumers are either finding their fix elsewhere, or simply tuning out. Finding the good, unspooking, or worse, unalarming. There has been a certain reduction of news in three years since Sept. 11: some things don't seem as important as they once did, after witnessing the events and aftermath of that day. There are challenging times for the media: stories are more complex, more international, and more expensive to report, but the news remains crucial to that society to tell the stories that are important. They aren't like before, but they are important in the foundation of the future. News is not the sort of stories that an industry would allow, because they are not the same as the news.

When the war C-5s hit the runway at Dover, maybe some entertainment reporter will find a respect if they report on it, and then follow the flag-draped casket on an final resting place. Most the family, the friends and the community leaders of the cover that lost a brave soul, and find out how they feel now about the conflict that the media couldn't wait to cover when it was all "shock and awe." Whatever we hear, it'll probably have a lot more resonance from the "permitted" way to cover the story—being in the Pentagon or the White House briefing room, getting the vetted truth.

Photo: Mansbridge is Chief Correspondent of CBS Television News and Anchor of *The National*. To contact him: tmansbridge@cbsnews.com

Passages

DEB: A Hamilton MP for 22 years, John Munro served under prime minister Pierre Trudeau in cabinet posts such as health and welfare, labour, and Indian affairs. After retiring in 1984, Munro was charged with fraud, corruption and other offences relating to his time as officer. But the charges were dropped in 1991. Munro, 72, died of a heart attack at his Hamilton home.



DEB: Whirlwind Dennis Flynn, 79, a powerful politician in the Toronto region, died of a heart attack while visiting CFB Petawawa. The former suburban mayor and chairman of the local metropolitan government survived being shot in the neck after purchasing a \$100,000 car in 1991.

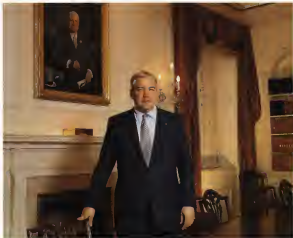
RETURNING: Toronto champion Peter Somers, 32, is living a career that brought him 64 singles titles including a record 14 Grand Slam and a No. 1 ranking for six years running (1993-1998). His last match was against the U.S. Open in 1992.

PAROLED: Kathy Goodie, 60, a member of the 1960s radical group Weather Underground, was granted parole after serving 22 years in New York prison. Goodie, who pled guilty to charges relating to a 1981 subway subway attack that killed a police officer and a guard was killed, was granted parole three months ago.

ROMANESQUE: Jean Chretien announced that the name of Montreal's Dorval International Airport will be changed to honour Pierre Elliott Trudeau. The official renaming will take place on Sept. 9.

DEPORTED: Peter Galt, 59, who once ran two of New York City's exclusive clubs, is being deported to Canada after pleading guilty to tax evasion. Galt, from Cornwall, Ont., admitted that he skinned CDS's 1 million in state taxes from his businesses.

WETTED: Global TV and real CTV have decided their dispute over news anchor Beverly Thomson. Global's Thomson, 39, was under a two-year contract with CTV but had her earlier this year.



Finance | The cost of history

All his life, media baron Conrad Black has been fascinated by the great men of world affairs—Bismarck, Bismarck, Churchill. A walking encyclopedia, he can recite the history of British royalty, the popes and whole cabinets of former Canadian governments, scarily at the drop of a hat. But it's his obsession with another great figure that's led to costly problems with several of his own key investors.

This fall, the Hollinger chairman, Lord Black of Crossharbour, is publishing a 912-page biography of Franklin D. Roosevelt. As chairman of President, in which he will make the case that FDR was the most important person of the 20th century. An arguable claim, more defensible perhaps than the fact that Black spent \$12 million from Hollinger International's treasury to purchase thousands of historical documents that once belonged

to FDR. Many papers with history's pages are all over them, they add to another of Black's prized possessions, a repository of an FBI search at Madison Square Garden.

Certain Hollinger shareholders, however, were not amused, citing this as just her example of Black's obsession with the public company's own self. But like every great man, he was defiant to the last. He told the *Financial Times* of London that he used Hollinger money because the \$12 million "was not something I was prepared to spend." And he likened the purchase to buying corporate art, even though the documents aren't on display, adding, "the value today is undoubtedly more than we paid."

He may well be right about that. All his life Black has had the undisputed knack for buying low and selling high—Murray Friedman Ltd. and Dominion News Ltd. came to mind. There is also his ability to resurrect forgotten dog-eared like London's *Daily Tele-*

graph that even though Hollinger is back in the black, so to speak, after enduring two years of horrendous losses, its chairman finds himself in the midst of a historic battle with institutional investors who are demanding much more accountability.

Two large shareholders, Thomson and Conrad Capital Management, have demanded internal documents to see exactly how corporate money is being spent. As now is the roughly \$200 million in management fees paid to Black and other officers over the years as well as millions in fees that were paid directly to management from the sale of Hollinger's mainly Canadian news papers, including the *National Post*, so they wouldn't get up their. A committee of directors, served as a *trustee* shareholders' management, is supposed to report on these transactions by year's end. That should decrease if Black is facing his own Waterloo—or if his stock is falling to low but for itself.



UNDER ATTACK IN BAGHDAD

For humanitarian aid workers, Iraq is the most dangerous country in the world

LIKE MANY in the aid community, I was ordered to leave of last week's bombing in Baghdad. At least 24 people, most of them UN aid workers, died when a British truck filled with explosives slammed into the UN headquarters at the Canal Hotel. Over the years, I, like others who have worked in Iraq, have spent countless hours in the Canal, coordinating aid efforts with UN officials.

The dead included the United Nations' top envoy to Iraq, Sergio Villarín de Melia, whom UN Secretary General Kofi Annan eulogized as "a servant of humanity." Sergio, the high commissioner for human rights, was in Baghdad to help Iraqis re-establish their administration and rebuild their country—as he had

done several years before with the citizens of Kosovo and East Timor. Also killed were Canadian Christopher Klein-Bodemann from Coventry, B. C., who was UNICEF Iraq's program coordinator, and Gifford Clark of Toronto, who was working for the Christian Children's Fund.

The explosion occurred at 4:30 p.m., a time when overworked and overburdened aid workers, having spent the day in the field, typically are settling in for a long evening at the office. Who could even think about leaving work early when so much

The explosion at the UN headquarters killed at least 24, including two Canadians

helplessness? In the end, it could be argued that it was this selfless dedication that killed them. Iraqis, with no choice, currently the most dangerous country in the world in which to deliver humanitarian assistance.

Like Christopher, I was in my early 30s when I first worked for UNICEF in Iraq, during the early 1990s. We had no water, electricity or food—but we didn't have American soldiers, snipers or grenade attacks either. Despite frequent visits to Iraq since 1991, I have only recently felt that my efforts to help those in greatest need had turned me into a moving target. During my latest visit in July, an international aid worker was killed and a grenade was tossed into the front yard

of an aid agency's compound. As a briefing, the U.S. military advised us to avoid driving over pay cans or even paper bags, as they were likely to be "improved explosive devices." There was not a moment when I did not fear violence. And I know others in the aid community shared my concern.

Such horrendous security conditions in Iraq make it virtually impossible for aid workers to get around, and where you go you're head at risk, or which meetings you choose to attend, can feel like a terrifying game of Russian roulette. In that sense, the attack, although reprehensible, will unfortunately not cause as much surprise to anyone engaged with humanitarian programs in Iraq. The violence against aid workers has been escalating for weeks. What is surprising, however, is that attacks of this nature are considered par for the course when, in fact, they are a relatively recent phenomenon, the most cases of which are swirling debate within the aid community. The line between humanitarian action and military targets has all but been erased, and the region of aid agencies operating in a neutral and safe "humanitarian space" is rapidly becoming the stuff of legends.

This is happening for several reasons. For one thing, there are more aid workers and they are pushing deeper into the world's most dangerous places. Many war-torn are now being fought by poorly trained rebels and irregular militias. Most of these attacking Iraq don't even understand the concept of international law. Let alone respect it. To that end, aid workers, like other civilians, are becoming instruments of war—rebels and terrorists believe that by attacking non-combatants, including killing and raping them, they can destabilize governments and, in the case of Iraq, give pause to American occupiers.

But this is only one part of the problem. In Iraq, as in many recent conflicts around the world including Kosovo and Afghanistan, it has become increasingly difficult for aid agencies to clearly separate the motives from the military in the administration of the humanitarian situation. The military is often, appropriately, called upon to provide secu-

rity. But when militias that wage war also swoon and congregate, distribute food and water, whitewash schools and establish collapse camps, it is nearly impossible for aid workers to distinguish themselves from the military apparatus. To an armed insurgent, any one handing out a food packet could be a soldier. And aid workers are paying the price in larger numbers than ever before. Each year, more of them are killed in the line of duty.



A U.S. soldier stands near injured teens after the bomb rocked the Canal Hotel

than are nonmilitary peacekeepers.

So aid agencies in Iraq have gone to great lengths to disassociate themselves from the U.S. armed forces. Two days before last week's bombing, the Non-governmental Organizations' Coordination Committee in Iraq, a coalition of some 100 international and Iraqi charities, e-mailed its members a recommended code of conduct. This included not localizing with members of the armed forces, no traveling in military vehicles or on military convoys, no carrying weapons, and so on. Some international aid agencies, including Oxfam, have refused to receive any funding for their Iraq operations from governments involved in the war effort. But it is a delicate conversation those willing to further destabilize the country.

Some will say they're not in Iraq's protection of the UN headquarters in Iraq.

Despite many Iraqis' disdain for the organization—which they blame as much as the U.S. for the negative effects of more than 12 years of sanctions—there was still a high level of respect for the individual aid workers trying to help Iraqis rebuild their country. And no doubt the UN itself, perhaps mistakenly, in respect, felt safer by not surrounding itself with U.S. soldiers.

None of this is a rationale, let alone an excuse, for last week's disposable act of violence. Those responsible must be brought out and brought to justice. But now is also the time to take stock of how we arrived at this point and how we can enhance the safety of our humanitarian workers in Iraq and around the world.

Christopher Klein-Bodemann was three weeks away from his 32nd birthday when he died in the worst attack against the United Nations in 58-year history. I remember meeting him at the UNICEF office in Baghdad earlier this year. Canadians have a way of making each other out in the field and the support is always enormous. Find the peace workers, the de-governors—this has been written about before—and you will find Canadians over-

represented in any hot spot.

In Ottawa, just down the road from the governor general's residence in Rideau Falls Park, the museum to Canadian aid workers bears silent witness to the scores of Canadians who have given their lives in the service of humanity. Before long, and with the permission of their families, plaques bearing the names of Klein-Bodemann and Clark will be added to the 47 names proceeding them, in black B.C. name and Red Cross worker Nancy Melloy, who was murdered alongside her co-workers in Chechnya in 1996. They all knew the risks, but none could have been prepared for the sacrifice. Canada's humanitarian workers are a unique bunch whose generosity has touched the lives of millions around the world. They are alert, honest and, as such, rarely acknowledged. Tragically, when they die

ERIC HOSKINS is a doctor with extensive humanitarian working with the UN and non-governmental organizations. He has been in Iraq more than 30 times.

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See customers connect with partners.
See today's stuff click with tomorrow's.

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IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED...

Capturing Chemical Ali is still significant, writes ARTHUR KENT

FIRST, he was dead. Then alive, then dead again. Finally last week, "Captured Alive" was stamped on the life of Gen. Ali Hassan al-Majid, Saddam Hussein's ruthless right-hand man and arguably the most stubborn survivor, outside of Saddam, in America's war on Iraq.

At the Pentagon and the White House, spokesmen kept short their accounts of the capture of the man known as "Chemical Ali." That was surprising, given the trail of death left in his fugitive's wake—much of it caused by poorly aimed or faulty American bombs. The story is that the same U.S. officials who suggested al-Majid be tried for war crimes are themselves accused of causing civilian deaths as he bungled an attack on his hometown in June on April 5.

The recent loss of Saddam's military apparatus, Chemical Ali's policies in the 1980s led to the deaths or disappearance of up to 100,000 Kurds, including 5,000 who died in a gas attack on the village of Halabja in March 1988 that earned al-Majid his sinister nickname. If U.S. interrogators can break him, there is little about Saddam's weapon program that Chemical Ali can't tell them.

That's no consolation for the Harisovs, who number among them several of Iraq's leading physicians (two Harisov sons live in Manchester, England, as British citizens). At 5:30 a.m. on April 5, the family's fate unfolded with that of al-Majid in a deadly, explosive instant when a 300-lb laser-guided bomb, dropped by an American F-16, plowed into the house. The Harisovs were using for shelter against the war. The target had been the occupied next door. A faith command, being nearby, had several Majid men in the house before the fire attack, a pair of F-16s missed the target building. One bomb almost killed the English apoc-



Al-Majid, above center after crashing in Shia rebellion in 1991, may cause red faces



rine. "It shouldn't have happened," Hussein said. He added: "Ten minutes went by before the second attack. We saw people climb over the wall and run away. They escaped."

The Pentagon was certain they had got their man, but soon came reported sightings of Chemical Ali in Baghdad. In June, Joint Chief of Staff chairman Gen. Richard Myers, who had first characterized that operation as a success, allowed that al-Majid might still be alive.

While last week's capture may cause red faces at the Pentagon, the approach of saying as little as possible about the failed raid, and the deaths it caused, will likely pay off. According to Claudio Corbo, director of International Law for Amnesty International, it would be difficult for any lawyer arguing for the Harisovs to prove the attack falls within the three possible grounds for action: targeting civilians intentionally, acting disproportionately or attacking with absolute confidence. "The best answer would be an investigation carried out by the United States," says Corbo, "but it's unlikely in a case like this that the authorities would elect to do so."

Dr. Firas Abbas, chief of the Harisovs and surgeon at Basra's Children's Hospital, wouldn't be repayed by that outcome. "Between Saddam and the Americans," he said of the attack, "there is nothing to choose. We are powerless, we are victims."

OUT OF CONTROL

Thousands flee their homes as British Columbia endures its most destructive summer of forest fires

THE SLEEPING natural setting that attracted Diana and Mel Korlan to their home on the edge of Gallagher's Canyon in Kelowna's second-most scenic view of the city rose up against them in the depths of the fire Thursday. The trend view of canyon, lake and city seemed common, as it has in so many places across British Columbia in this summer of flames. Never before have so many fires threatened those living on the wilderness fringe of B.C. Many discovered to their alarm that nature isn't as benign as it may seem. "There's no doubt," says Mel, a retired executive, "no being very naive about the real character of that danger."

With the sky glowing red in wildfire-ravaged Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park to the south, he pulled no leaves from Thursday night, just ahead of an evacuation order that moved 10,000 people out by early Friday. Overnight, 13 homes burned. Diana was early striking family to watch up Mel to gather papers, jewelry, the works of his wife and her father—both artists—and 10-year-old, the Korlans' son. "Things are things," he explains, after a hectic night that saw their home spared. "It's all as everyone in B.C. that's the important stuff."

Across the province, 835 fires have forced the evacuation of thousands from the Okanagan, from cowboy country near Kamloops, and in the mountainous Kootenay region of southwestern B.C. By Friday, more than 170,000 hectares of forest had been destroyed in the most devastating and expensive fire year in provincial history. And Friday, the provincial government had burned through more than \$156.7 million—five times its natural fire suppression budget.

Three pilots have died in two crashes in the aerial fire fights that are a riveting spectacle of skill and courage. "I know these people this year as a very sobering reminder of the dangers and the risks that our pilots and a lot of our staff face on a daily basis," says provincial fire information officer Steve Bishop. Twenty crews, contractors, hundreds of soldiers and urban firefighters—more than 3,500 well—were waging the battle against tough odds.

Nowhere are the stakes higher than the popular Okanagan region, where the fire of homes, orchards, wineries and the peak of the tourist season hangs on the whims of wind and weather. "It's tough to imagine that 10,000 of our citizens have now been evacuated," says Kelowna mayor Walter Gray. But he's torn pained by what he's seen in each trying circumstance. "Our city, under siege," he says.

TWO HOT SPOTS

Major fires rage south of Kelowna and in the Mitchell-Garrero area north of Kamloops



"I certainly have a population with a lot of space," Barker struggles for composure as he describes the response of fire crews and the community as a whole. "Sorry," he says, his voice wobbling. "These guys are just so fantastic. The volunteers, the organization that's in place—it's just wonderful to see."

It was the same scene 8 C.—sets of grain, orange and the sort of rugged resilience typified by ranchers Ian and Arja Mitchell of Barnhart, 60 km north of Kamloops. The family-run Mitchell Cattle Co. has been under threat through most of August. Fire destroyed their spring range to the south. Some 180 head of their cattle were trapped between spreading fires on the summer range to the northwest—no unknown number are dead. "The fire was so intense," says Ian, "it actually incinerated the carcasses." He saved 50 head, but with the freezing and carcasses burned, it's difficult to head the surviving cattle onto tracks. "The cows have gotten so nonchalant about the fire that it'll be something burning right beside them and they're not even leaving," says Arja. "If they're not running from the flames, how can we help them?"

The Mitchells aren't fleeing either. Ian, followed by other neighbors, spaced two cowmen's aides, running irrigation pipes to houses and setting lawn sprinklers on rooftops. Arja, seven months pregnant, left with their three-year-old daughter, mourning as soon as she could despite the smoke. The initial fire, started on July 30 by a discarded cigarette, raged north from McLean, destroying dozens of homes and businesses with it as it spread at devastating speed and an unusually late season. "People describe it like a 747 pushed in the backyard," says Arja.

The Mitchells had their challenges without off-pipe. Debris have worse. In Kelowna some ranches on the brink of ruin, their firehouses already devastated by the small cowmen. Ben von Hardeberg, a 33-year-old pilot from Mission, B.C., died two weeks before his wedding date, when his helicopter crashed on Aug. 17 into the flames he was fighting on the western fringe of the Mitchell's land.

The risk on the ground, too, is enormous. At their peak, flames in the McLean-Barnhart and Okanagan Mountain park fires climbed more than 60 m into the forest canopy, and speed storms that 90 m winds, sped up "because drag all the fire retardant and all the

The huge blaze beside Okanagan Lake as it raged northward toward Kelowna





water you've got access to and in most cases it's not going to do anything unless it drowns," he says. That laser fire, visible on Aug. 16 by lightning, became a "double-headed monster," as one official put it, as winds pushed it north to Kelowna, or south toward the peaceful perfect village of Nanaimo.

It's the potential for massive loss of property and lives that sets this year's fire season apart—and critics seem to see that the B.C. government could have mitigated the risk. Provincial Auditor General Wayne Stenseth warned two years ago of the growing threat of "wildfire fires," where human development abuts the natural forest—already seen charring communities and lives in California, New Mexico and Arizona. Ironically, the near mythical loss of British Columbian fire-fighters seems to be a contributing factor. Not only are they building flammable little pieces of suburbs inside the forest, but a fire can be made that the province's woods are being killed with land-use. Logging provides parks to remove dead and bug-infested trees, and expanding prescribed burns to clear forest undergrowth have been political no-go zones. Besides of suppressing the natural cycle of fire also added to what Stenseth warned was a "significant buildup of forest fuel."

Former Minister Minto de Jong has signaled a willingness to consider re-evaluating such tough fire controls as controlled burns to limit further destruction the forest fires. Last week, the province hurriedly created a special fire department with the power to instantly deploy



The Mitchell on charred land. Daily, a blazing hill to the flames north of Nanaimo.

equipment and people to fight massive fires. Karlova's forest contractor Gary Barber is part of the ongoing battle, running a crew of 75 on fires across the B.C. Interior in the worst conditions he's seen in his 25 years in the woods. That there are homes and the livestock on in the smoke, "You never heard much about these fires and there were houses on there," he says, as though someone on the external paid should know the forest. "When it's just trees going, burning, and no one sees it, it's not a big deal." But when houses fall this summer, they indeed make a sound. A dying man, as Anna Mitchell put it, as loud as a 747. ■

ONTARIO'S BLACKOUT BLUES

The lights are back on—for now, at least—but big questions remain

THERE are few things as momentous as a blackout, like at midway Sothen the Canadian National Exhibition opened last week, Toronto as a whole took heart. The historic Aug. 14 blackout had delayed the launch of the venerable Ex by four days, and when the Sunbelt area finally began sparking, it seemed like a sign, "it shows that we've persevered," said Kevin Dalby, passing beside a motorcade stand with his three-year-old daughter, Katherine. "We've survived the blackout."

So far. Fear of the dark remains a potent force in Ontario these days—even with the lights on. Hybrids of politics and political leaders warned for days of rolling blackouts should consumers fail to conserve during the system's fragile rebirth. And welcoming a car west from being a suburban to a dog house history you never knew when some self-appointed authority, or eagle-eyed TV crew, might show up to lecture you. Bob Macnevin, the province's public safety and security minister, recently suggested prosecuting people who failed to conserve during future outages. "I think there's more coming needed," he said.

Discretion remains aside, the target is serving a purpose of sorts, forcing long overdue attention on a system that quite plainly flounders, causing 50 million Canadian and American into darkness. The scale of the outage left many people queasy. So, too, did Ontario's long-planned bid to fall power while the affected areas largely ignored generating capacity within 24 hours, contrary to the north of the border were forced into conservation mode, dimming their lights and flipping air conditioning for all but the most scalding weather. The recent flight of the province's 12 operational nuclear reactors had gone into full shutdown after the outage, rather than "killing" its avail-

by status that would permit a quick return to production.

By week's end, the eight reactors were back on-line. Still, the long, hot hours waiting for full power had added a sense of urgency to investigations of the incident. Early signs pointed to a coal-fired power plant near Cleveland, which went offline at about 8:30 p.m. the day of the outage. Soon after, a series of nearby transmission lines went down, sucking away power through the Lake Erie region and effectively severing the flow of current. That fluctuation, in turn, set off computerized safety mechanisms in generating stations elsewhere and the chain reaction was on: at 4:11 p.m., shutdowns spread at lightning speed throughout the eastern seaboard, a shocking town after town, country after country.

This "outage" offer still be the price focus of a joint Canada U.S. task force looking into the blackout. Why, for instance, did alarm mechanisms fail to alert the Ohio operators in time to anticipate that system from the rest of the grid? How did authorities in Ontario respond to on-site look-alike sightings of blackouts earlier in the day, which were reported by at least two different agencies monitoring the grid? "We were no

The CNE swung into action four days later then planned because of the power outage

have a thorough understanding of what happened," said Herb Dhillon, the federal natural resources minister. "Reliability of the system is paramount."

The outage has also exposed Ontario's growing dependency on imported power. Before the blackout, the province barely produced the 25,000 megawatts typically needed on a hot day. Mid-week, with temperatures climbing to 32°C, the system could generate only 21,490 megawatts during peak hours. Ontario's forced back to the export wall, arranging 1,300 megawatts of power to be shipped from Quebec and New York.

The shortfall has seen critics calling for a massive investment in domestic power generation: more small, local natural-gas-powered plants, and billions in upgrades to nuclear facilities. But others fear a large supply increase will only spur conservation, which has already climbed 18 per cent in the last decade. "Increasing capacity is not the whole answer," said Peter Lowe, executive director of the Toronto-based Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance. "Allowing conservation and demand to increase without control is, in

my view, really quite silly." Lowe's industry-supported group is among those calling for efficiency incentives, such as a secret California program giving customers a further 20-per-cent break on their power bills if they cut usage by 20 per cent. But it also argues that hybrid companies need the ability to pass on the costs of conservation to the consumer—especially as the industry inches toward privatization. That means an end to rate caps, like the 4.3 per cent allowed their currently in effect in Ontario.

Either way, the outlook calls for tougher times, with disagreements against conservation. Back at the CNE, Edwin Doddington tried to be upbeat as he introduced her sons, Bill, 10, and Ben, 12, into the air-conditioned confines of the National Trade Centre. The family had made the 45-minute drive from Milton, despite fears that another outage would strand them. To their surprise, they were greeted by uncharacteristically polite carmen. "I guess they have to be if they want to make up for the money they lost during the blackout," Doddington observed.

Not much of a silver lining, to be sure. But any good news is welcome as post-blackout Ontario. And it's a lot better than thinking about the electrical storm ahead. ■



IT'S NOT THE kind of crowd given to chants, planned, or burning brands. Greeting, neatly pressed, well-mannered, they line up patiently at the open microphone. The only interruptions the featured speakers have to contend with are bursts of applause and the odd shout of "Amen!" But on a humid Wednesday evening on the dead of summer, a couple of hundred people have piloted their minivans and pickups to this community hall on the outskirts of Orangeville, Ont., because they are determined to launch a counter-revolution. Things have been changing too fast in Canada and they've finally had enough. These people are mad as hell and they're going to send a polite e-mail about it.

"Look who's in the clown show," shouts Thomas Emmanuel, the evening's MC. It's the ninth town hall meeting on same-sex marriage that his group, Equipping Christians for the Public Square, has organized since

with approval. "My dignity is being offended on the basis of my sexual orientation. I'm not a grade but I find it disgusting. I find it vile." The views of a tiny, vocal minority and the courts that support them are fundamentally altering Canadian society for the worse, says the preacher. It's time to fight back. "Either we live unashamedly for Christ today, or die in the shadows," he proclaims. On cue, the crowd rises to its feet. Their heart-felt clapping fills the hall for long minutes.

Murray Calder, the local Liberal MP, sits in the hot seat in the front of the hall, wearing the look of benign neutrality favoured by cornered politicians. His stance, against his government's decision to comply with recent court rulings on Ontario and British Columbia and extend marriage rights to gays and lesbians across Canada, wins him sympathy, but probably not the votes of those assembled before him. At the open



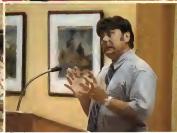
BACKLASH

WHY DOES HALF OF THE COUNTRY BELIEVE SAME-SEX MARRIAGES SHOULDN'T BE LEGAL?

mini June, they're sitting for 94 more—see us each of Ontario's federal ridings. "The homosexual activists have turned the public square into their bedroom and they want us to sit by and say nothing. But shouldn't we have equal rights to oppose their lifestyle?" Emmanuel, a floppy-haired 34-year-old pastor from Jordan Station, near Niagara Falls, is baring his teeth. The crowd purrs

with approval. "My dignity is being offended on the basis of my sexual orientation. I'm not a grade but I find it disgusting. I find it vile." The views of a tiny, vocal minority and the courts that support them are fundamentally altering Canadian society for the worse, says the preacher. It's time to fight back. "Either we live unashamedly for Christ today, or die in the shadows," he proclaims. On cue, the crowd rises to its feet. Their heart-felt clapping fills the hall for long minutes.

"My dignity is being offended," Emmanuel (bottom right) said in Orangeville.



A CLERGY DIVIDED

THE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE DEBATE REVEALS SOME FUNDAMENTAL SPLITS IN THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

OLD TESTAMENT (King James)

Leviticus 20:17, "If a man shall be with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death."

Rabbi Allen Sernau, Shalom Synagogue, Vaughan, Ont.: "The traditional understanding of the text, which I hold, is that it condemns homosexual practices. It does not condemn homosexuals. You only have power over what you do, not who you are."

Rabbi Debra Libenberg, Temple Emanuel E.C. Toronto: "Mocking between Jewish tradition, contemporary understanding of human sexuality and an ongoing search for meaning, many Jews confront this passage and no longer believe it to be binding."



ruised. "The law proposed by the justice minister will be political suicide in many parts of the country," Calder tells the crowd.

The backlash against the pending legislation appears to be growing, and was certainly a point of discussion at the Liberal caucus meeting held in North Bay, Ont., last week. Poll shows a five percentage-point drop in support for the changes over the last two months, with the caucus now evenly split on the question—49 per cent for, 49 per cent against. Majorities in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario now

oppose pulling you off to the side and say, "What the heck are you guys doing in Ottawa?" Calder says in an interview at the local Legion. "The only thing I can compare it to is a law people felt about the gun registry."

At the next table, a group of members is enjoying late-afternoon drinks and smokes. William Edgar, the British president and proud D-Day vet ("I landed in Normandy on June 6, 1944, at 7:30 in the morning on Sword Beach"), is adamantly opposed to same-sex unions. "Marriage is made for

man and woman in conjunction, and how are you going to get two quarters to goodness?" he says. "It's not my cup of tea." Bob McNabb, a retired banker, chimes in. "I'm against guys, you can quote me on that. If they want to live together that's fine, let them, but they don't get the sanction of marriage." Another, more public member of the party notes that neither government is upholding an official Legion identity.

Polls suggesting an overall split in public opinion make, however, the real lines being drawn in this debate—generational ones.



"HOW DARE YOU RAISE YOUR VOICE, THEY SAY. WELL, THE CHURCH IS A COMMUNION OF SAINTS AND SINNERS. EVERY SAINT HAS A PART AND EVERY SINNER HAS A FUTURE. I WILL NOT ALLOW PEOPLE TO TRY TO SILENCE THE VOICE OF THE GOSPEL BECAUSE OF THE PROBLEMS WE'VE HAD." —FRANK HENRY, BISHOP OF CALGARY

Two-thirds of people 55 and older oppose same-sex marriage, while the same percentage of voters 34 and younger support it. Matthew Mendelsohn, the director of the Canadian Opinion Research Archive at Queen's University, says he can't recall any other public-policy issue that has cleaved so strongly along age lines. "I think this issue is symbolic for a lot of people. It condones a whole bunch of worries about values around our nation," he notes. "It sounds like a threat to their entire system of beliefs." The speed with which same-sex marriage has gone from being an apparently innocuous policy caught many Canadians off guard. Some voters now seem to be coming around for someone to blame for the rapid changes.

Among the youngest and most confident are those who oppose homosexuality as religious grounds. They're recognizing this has, in living memory, gone from

NEW TESTAMENT (King James)

Matthew 1:17, "And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly."

John Stockhouse, professor of theology and culture, Regent College Vancouver: "Paul is saying when a society refuses to follow God's prescriptions for a healthy society, you see different kinds of breakdowns, and one of the most obvious is confusion in sexual relationships."

Rev. Steven Charnock, executive minister, theology and faith, United Church, Toronto: "These passages have been used to exclude homosexuality to heterosexual people. The word of God lies in the witness of Jesus Christ, who upheld mutually respecting relationships."

being faith-based to secular, and in their opinion is now writing on politics. "We had the legislation reprehensible," says Speaker Khan, the Vancouver-based chairman of the Muslim Canadian Federation. Despite Ottawa's assertion that the proposed changes will co-exist with religious freedom, B.C.'s 60,000-strong Muslim community worries that its mosques could ultimately be forced to marry same-sex couples. "On one side they talk about the Charter of Rights, but religion has their rights as well," says Khan.

Bishop Frank Henry, the outspoken leader of Calgary's Catholic community, says he too is suspicious of federal assurances. "I'm afraid they're throwing in a bone and saying, 'Go away, keep quiet.'"

The bishop, who recently made headlines for suggesting Christians and other politicians who support same-sex marriage are passing their souls to perdition. "They are making their eternal salvation—if they were to sell the dice it's up to them," he told Madden's, believes no one has the right to interfere with an institution that produces all manner of good government. And he's fed up with accusations of intolerance and bigotry frequently levelled at those who oppose a more exclusive definition of matrimony. "I'm getting 100 e-mails on this subject, most in favour of my position, but about one in 20 is filled with hate," Henry says. "How dare you raise your voice? How dare you talk about the Charter of Rights, but religions have rights as well."

"Well, the Church is a communion of saints and sinners. Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future. I will not allow people to try to silence the voice of the Gospel because of problems we've had."

But there is little religious consensus in this latest clash between public policy and private morals. Issues around homosexuality have been a matter of intense debate in all the major faiths over the past decade. The United Church of Canada, the country's largest Protestant denomination, recently reaffirmed its support of same-sex mar-



"WE FIND THIS LEGISLATION REPREENSIBLE. THEY TALK ABOUT THE CHARTER OF RIGHTS, BUT RELIGIONS HAVE RIGHTS AS WELL."

—SHARON KHAN OF THE MUSLIM CANADIAN FEDERATION

THE KORAN (Everyman)

Sura 7:78-79: "We also sent Lot when he said to his people, prevent ye that filthy deed. ... Come ye to me, instead of women, lawfully! Ye are indeed a people given up to excess."

Muhammad Salameh, former president, Islamic Society of North America, Toronto, Ont.: "The passage speaks for itself. You men are having sexual relations with men instead of women, and this is your transgression! The people of Lot were destroyed."

Fahad Alami, founder and director, Al-Farooq Foundation, Washington: "The Koran does not condemn homosexuality or same-sex relationships, but rather condemns those who turn their backs on the oppressed, like the vast majority of homophobic Muslim scholars."

riage. And a number of Catholic priests have begun to publicly question the Vatican's vehement opposition to gay and lesbian unions. "There is a recent report from gay Muslims in Toronto, and an American news outlet has declared it open to same-sex marriages. In the Jewish community, the conservative movement strongly opposes Orthodox's changes, but a coalition of 25 reform synagogues is in favour of the proposed law. Lindsay But Joseph, rabbi at Edmonton's Temple Beth Or, says he is likely to join some sex couples in a commitment ceremony, if both are Jewish and men being in good standing of the synagogue. "The Reform movement has a philosophy of evolving dialogue with our traditions and practices, and daring to challenge our beliefs," he says. "I have our gay congregants and I want for him what I want for myself: a nice Jewish boy."

The main arguments advanced by opponents of same-sex marriage is that, by allowing gay and lesbian couples to wed, the courts and the government are encouraging the transgression. Already under serious challenge from high-divorce rates and crumbling low partnerships, traditional marriage will lose even more of its special, sacred appeal, they say. David Maruse, the Pentecostal minister who married 199 Ontario Street, Canada's most enduring and successful religious television program, raised from his home gay couples last month and cele-

WHERE THE OPPOSITION IS

% AGAINST ALLOWING
SAME-SEX COUPLES TO
MARRY

RESULTS OVERLAP SIGNIFICANTLY WITH LITIGATION, BUT VARIATION BY REGION MAY BE MORE SIGNIFICANT IN SOME REGIONS.



voicing himself to rallying a position to the proposed changes. "It's not a big thing in one sense, but it may be the straw that breaks the camel's back," says Marzouk. "By redefining the word, we will water down the strength of the heterosexual union, particularly amongst heterosexual men, who will not work as hard at their relationships as the future." There will be more same-sex families, increased child poverty and social problems, he predicts. As Marzouk himself observes, no one can prove or disprove his thesis.

Those searching for an-called "separate-but-equal" solution, however, may be disappointed. Again, the rights group that backed the marriage changes, the United States Council on Canada, like their counterparts

in the United States, have shown little inclination in recent years to endorse the concept of distinct categories of rights for different groups. Ottawa has rejected the idea of adding such a question to its Supreme Court reference; the justices have already been asked if Parliament has the exclusive authority to change the definition of marriage and to rule on the balance between gay rights and religious freedoms.



"WHAT REALLY OPENED MY EYES WAS THAT ALL OF THEM SAID HOMOSEXUALITY WAS OK. THEY GOT THAT FROM THEIR SCHOOLS."

—PATRICK MARZOUK, OFT

years to recognize and give effect to rights for gays and lesbians. "But if the legal outcome seems predictable, the political timetable is not. The Supreme Court will not hand down its opinion on the draft legislation before this winter at the earliest, meaning the bill is unlikely to come up for a vote until well into 2004—an uncomfortable delay for many wavering MPs, to the next general election. In the meantime, opponents will continue efforts to sway public and political opinion. There are already several grassroots anti-gay campaigns. Web sites trying to coordinate protests, meetings and prayer rallies across the country. Tim Dooling, an Ottawa writer and lifelong Liberal, who organized the "National Marriage Day" rally that drew 6,000 people to Parliament Hill last week, says he believes

that it will still be some Ottawa's hand. "The judges are running this country upside down. Somebody has to do something about it," he says. "This government has become lazy, arrogant and arrogant. They need to be taught a lesson." At the Orangeville town hall, speaker after speaker heads to the microphone to make the same point. Many of them all against the "gay agenda" and voter error about where it will all end—open, legalized pedophilia, the Bible being declared "hate literature." Robert Scott, a salesman and Sunday school teacher from nearby Dundalk, bristles down in tears. "The direction this country is going, I fear for my kids, I fear for my grandchildren." Claring in the foyer after the meeting ends, Scott's 13-year-old son, Nathan, says he believes

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LINES OF DISAGREEMENT

WHO'S AGAINST
AND WHO'S FOR:
THE TWO SIDES IN
THE GAY MARRIAGE
DEBATE HAVE
DISTINCT PROFILES



SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION MORE LIKELY TO OPPOSE
SAME-SEX MARRIAGE ARE: aged 55 and up (83%), those (54%), lacking high-school diplomas (66%), and earning less than \$30,000 annually (55%).

LESS LIKELY TO OPPOSE IT ARE: aged 18-34 (34%), women (44%), university grads (36%), and earning more than \$60,000 (42%).

ROMAN CATHOLIC VIEWS—56% for, 48% opposed—mirror the national average (49% pro and con).

"WHY SHOULD WE HAVE TO CALL IT SOMETHING ELSE?"

Renald Segrand and Robert Lawrence want to see Alberta's majority office in downtown Calgary in mid-August with a simple request: could they please apply for a marriage license? Segrand, 45, and Lawrence, 46, who have lived together as a couple for 23 years, knew from the get-go what the answer would be. Web television cameras in law, they crossed the street, holding hands, and entered the offices of the Alberta Human Rights Commission, where they promptly lodged a complaint, claiming they had just been discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation.

The following evening, sitting at the dining room table in their suburban Calgary home, the two men described the very different responses to their brush with celebrity government. Segrand, an adult educator at a private college, lashed out with enthusiasm about the positive feedback he got from his employers, co-workers and students, as well as family members, and friends who called him for advice as to what he should do. Lawrence, a residential care worker who deals with people with developmental disabilities, was far more reserved. Earlier in the day, at a neighborhood grocery store, an elderly man had confronted him: "We recognized you from the TV" and called him a "faggot."

The flat indifference of Lawrence's voice speaks volumes. Gay-bashing is something the couple have long endured. Last year, Lawrence, a provincial employee, launched a legal challenge that led to legal can-

vince the Alberta government to extend its view of persons to include same-sex partners. For months afterwards, says Lawrence, he and Segrand received death threats. "You'll be on your voice mail" recalls Lawrence, "and there would be a message saying, 'you fuck, you faggot, I'm going to kill you.'"

Undaunted, the couple decided it was time to take another public stance. This time to support gay marriage. Alberta-born and bred, they are particularly upset at Premier Ralph Klein's view that, if Ottawa presses a lead on legalizing same-sex marriages, he'll revoke the Constitution's so-called notwithstanding clause to exempt his province. "What are we supposed to do?" says Segrand. "Move to

a better province so we can get married?" No way, I grow up here. I like it here. It's home."

Both men believe that if their reasons for wanting to get married were properly understood, the vast majority of Canadians would understand. It has to do with ensuring they have the same legal status as heterosexual spouses, including full pension and health-care benefits as well as a say in medical decisions should one of them become incapable of giving informed consent for treatment. The letter is no idle fancy, in the past, when either Lawrence or Segrand was hospitalized, health-care professionals would sometimes order the healthy partner to leave the room because he was not related. "That's just not right," says Segrand. "I want Robert making decisions for me. If he's critically ill, that's something you can do for the person you love and care about."



Lawrence and Segrand say marriage by any other name is demeaning

Couldn't such issues be dealt with without the chaos of changing the formal definition of marriage—perhaps by recognizing same-sex unions by another name? "Yes," says Segrand. "But why should we have to call it something else? It's demeaning." As for racial distinctions to gay marriage, most of the same criticism, why is that unusual, he asks. If religious arguments are not forced to justify why union they disapprove of? "I don't know why people like to discriminate," says Segrand. "If gay marriage was a thing for people to be against, why are we asking for it? Is being to change anything for anyone else? I really don't see this as a bad thing or such a big deal."

DAVID HARRISON



OVER THE PAST 2½ years, it has brought hundreds of jobs and a sense of security to many small towns suffering from drought and the closure of the U.S. border to cattle. Now, barely up and running, Manitoba's founding Internet drug business is being under the shadow of the dollar ban on online pharmacies across Canada as selling \$650 million to \$1 billion worth of drugs a year, say industry watchers, about \$300 million of that from the 60 operations in Manitoba. But the huge, multimarket drug companies don't relish seeing these bootleggers selling their patented drugs to Americans at up to 80-per-cent less than their retail price in the U.S. The pharmaceutical giant, says Winnipeg lawyer John Myers who speaks for three pharmacies, are trying to put the Canadian operations out of business by lowering their cost of drug supplies.

Americans who can't afford or don't want to pay U.S. prices have been flocking to the cheaper Canadian websites they started offering drugs as the Internet at Canada's regulated, lower prices since 2001. Always critical, many of the biggest brand-name suppliers are moving into boycott mode. So far, says Myers, they include GlaxoSmithKline (maker of Paxil and Zimada), AstraZeneca (Losec and Nicotin), Wyeth (Efface and Premarin), and Pfizer, the world's largest (Lipitor and Accupril). "Merrill Lynch [investment bank] will be next," says Darren Jangman, owner of one of Manitoba's largest e-pharmacies, CanadaWeb.com.

CUTTING OFF SUPPLIES

Will the big drug companies kill the Internet pharmacies?

"When that happens, over 45 per cent of the pharmaceuticals we sell will no longer be available. This will kill our industry."

Jangman says a pharmacist cannot operate with access only to generic drugs. That's because most of their clients want the patented drugs, which offer them huge savings. And the Canadian operations are still able to make a profit on them because they buy their supplies in Canada, where federal regulators keep prices much lower than in the U.S. free market. The Manitoba operators failed in the spring to convince the Competition Bureau of Canada to address Glaxo's boycott. But they haven't given up. "Now that more drug companies are involved," says Myers, "it may be possible to convince the bureau to look at this as lessening competition in a distant Canadian market." Also under consideration:

suing the boycotting companies, says Colin MacArthur, a lawyer for the Manitoba International Pharmacists' Association.

MIPA president Ken Thodek says some of Manitoba's smaller e-pharmacies, from the so-called "spit" outlets where small Internet businesses can alongside their retail operations, will soon shut down. In the longer run, if the entire online industry had to shutter its operations, Manitoba's rural economy would face a devastating hit. The Internet pharmacies, mainly based in small towns, provide more than 1,000 jobs for people who would otherwise be hard-pressed to find work locally in Minnesota, for instance, a community of 3,400 about 200 km west of Winnipeg. 200 people work for MediPharm (McNash.com), the largest employer in town and one of the largest e-pharmacies in Canada.

Flash with new business, MediPharm has built a \$3-million warehouse and order centre in the town of Neerive, 30 km south of Winnipeg. But the new facility remains unoccupied in the uncertain business climate. Before the battle with the drug giants began, there was talk of more than 200 new jobs in Neerive. Now, the company intends to open the building in September with only 25 to 35 new people. Neerive's mayor, Gordon Dorian, says that's a setback for the town, but he takes comfort from a Biblical prophecy: "David saw Goliath," says Dorian, "and I believe the Internet pharmacies will prevail." □



WHEN ATLAS SHRUGS

Other major economies around the world are now contributing to global recovery

IT'S TIME TO END U.S. economic self-isolation. For too long, Americans behaved as if the rest of the world didn't matter. Those arrogant Americans act as if they are the only major industrial economy that has a growth strategy, and it is up to us to prevent a global recession. What a small role the European and Japanese! No wonder they've been obliged to vote against the U.S. at the UN. No wonder politicians and pundits worldwide warn of the perils from America's go-it-alone attitude.

Although Canada's debt yield to note is decreasing, American underestimates, that American determination to grow the U.S. economy through high-powered domestic stimulus provided an almost insurmountable demand for the commodities, cars, oil, parts, and technology that Canada produced. Recall the Canadian economy has outperformed the U.S. economy for the past four years, as American industry focused on outsourcing more and more of its production abroad (its. China also ran big from the decay of the unregulated U.S. and social welfare, but that's another story).

By generally accepted estimates, the U.S. economy, which is less than one-quarter of the world's economy, has accounted for more than half of total global economic growth since 1996. The U.S. has been the Atlas supporting the economic globe. Moreover, the U.S. "boom" has been driven by just two sectors—consumer spending and technology—sectors capital-intensive. So what can Atlas do now, when constraints are borrowing to and in billions of cases beyond the bill, and the technology and telecommunications are in tatters?

Alan Greenspan, the nation's most famous devotee of Ayn Rand, knows what rational means when Atlas shrugs. So he's making the burden of indebtedness bearable for most of the deeply indebted—consumers, corporations, and governments—by driving down short-term interest rates to near Depression levels. Long-term interest rates followed short-term rates and the race to the

bottom in April and May, as investors responded to gloomy economic news and Greenspan's warnings about the threat of the deflation. Bond markets shied from the desperate search for yield through a deepening gloom. The most-quoted economist seemed to be Morgan Stanley's Stephen Roach, who had long proclaimed a "double-dip" recession.

Then summer arrived. The Bush tax cuts kicked in, combining with those low-interest rates to deliver what may have been Washington's last bullies against a deflationary downturn. One of history's biggest booms will still come out of the summer haze. It was as if a band began worldwide had been around a country since with a right-wing scenario of burgeoning economic growth. A vision of fast-refilling economic per-

MOST FORECASTERS (including me) assumed that China had been hit by SARS almost as hard as Toronto. Not so.

sons would be, of course, birthright hell, and they rushed really for the exit. The Fed [and other central bankers] kept short-term rates at bargain-basement levels, but other interest rates soared. What was going on?

Maybe it was the suggestion of better economic activity coming from some very unlikely places. German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder announced an economic program that means, in effect, he was joining the European Union's Stability and Growth Pact that requires members to restrict government deficits to three per cent of GDP. Not only was he announcing significant tax cuts at a time of high deficits, but he was going so far as the nation's growth pains and welfare schemes. When the biggest and most powerful European industrial union, IG Metall,

abandoned a major strike in eastern Germany in June, business sentiment in Berlin leapt. IG Metall had never, never had to give in to economic reality before. The German stock market became the strongest performer in the industrial world, anyone that had long seemed impossible as a Wall Street success in Bayreuth.

Another unlikely stock market performer emerged across the Pacific, as investors began to assess the implications of sustained growth in Japanese corporate profitability. Almost unnoticed, Japan has been delivering powerful productivity gains, over years in which Japan's kept people on payroll whether needed or not. Some prominent global economic forecasters began raising their growth estimates for Japan—albeit from the very lowest to the modestly modest.

China weighed in with the announcement that growth had increased, even through the second quarter. Most forecasters (including me) assumed that China had been hit by SARS almost as hard as Toronto. Not so, it turned out, by the more reliable of Chinese economic statistics. Imports. They stayed over even demand for metals soared and international tin prices soared on China collapsed.

While interest rates on long-term bonds were climbing worldwide, interest rates for base metals—copper, nickel, aluminum, lead and zinc. Yes, the price fell for these commodities as they were out on the scale of the bottom. But some interest rates, but they all came at once, even though these metals were different markets. The metals of leading base metal companies surged among others confirming that the metal price increases were not mere blips. Meanwhile, consumer spending rates also climbed, a sign that the world was picking up.

Atlas is also flexing its muscles, thanks to the steroid of its oil, but the financial problems of state and local governments (as displayed last week by California) will make for a "time struggle." The rest of the world must pick up the slack, now that American economic underperformance is fading.

That may be happening—just in the Hollywood couldn't write a better escape story. Maybe The Atlas did find that out and wants to be a Sars-resistant for the credits to roll when better times arrive. □

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KEEPING UP TRADITION

In Lagos, tribal chiefs still matter, writes MICHEL ARSENEAULT

FEW LARGE AFRICAN cities have resisted their tribal chiefs. They were previously sidelined after many of the continent's nations declared independence in the early 1960s. Some chiefs were done away with for having been their colonial masters' henchmen, others for opposing decolonization. But Lagos, Nigeria, Africa's largest city, is an exception. The Yoruba, the main ethnic group in southwestern Nigeria, and the second-largest of the country's more than 250 ethnic groups, still follow their traditional leader, the oba—an institution to be reckoned with. "The oba is to the Yoruba what Queen Elizabeth II is to the English," says Oba Ewu, a new ruler and self-proclaimed descendant of the crown of Lagos Island, the throbbing heart of the city of 12.4 million.

Oba Adegbala Oyetunji II, who died in March, served as an icon of peace and unity in Lagos, a city that has been plagued by bloody ethnic and religious clashes that have cost thousands of lives in recent years. The country's first Obafemi Awolowo was elected president in 1999. Since independence from Britain in 1960, Nigeria has mainly been ruled by military leaders, with the worst years being those of Sani Abacha from 1998 to his death in 1998. Still, no one was supposed to mourn when the 91-year-old "King of Kings" passed away after 35 years on the royal stool. Instead, citizens proclaimed Oyetunji had "joined his ancestors" and "passed on to eternal glory." The Yoruba don't lament the departure of traditional rulers—especially not after puffing his viceroy who had eight wives and 25 children. (He was also an Edinburgh-trained pharmacist, a Professor and a former Sunday-school teacher, although no one here seems to find these discrepancies shocking.) Oyetunji is now buried with his predecessor on the modest palace grounds. Every 16 days, they are remembered with offerings of goat and palm oil, kola nuts and alligator peppers.

The crown is not passed automatically from parent to first-born. Candidates to the top job need only be members of the same extended royal family. They're sent as applicants to the

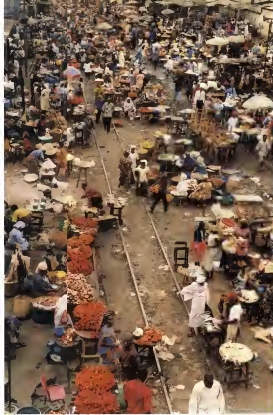
traditional prime minister of Lagos, the now-revived office of the "white cap chiefs," the elders who choose the new oba. I visited the prime minister, T.I. Jomai Eka, at his home in the midst of the selection process. He was wearing an ornate white robe embroidered with gold. When two liver-coloured elders arrived, one bowed obsequiously; the other prostrated himself. See fit on the cement floor. They were searching for Eka, he explained, "a dedicated trust, a man of transparency, of good character, a man of the people who is well-known by the people." Candidates' names are also submitted to two or three priests who consult ife, a "messenger of God" akin to an angel. Their main preoccupation is to determine if a king's reign will be prosperous or misfortunate. "White robes are symbols," Eka noted. "We use ife."

From the 15 candidates who applied, the elders eventually selected Riwun Balogun as Oyetunji's successor, 90, a former top-ranking police officer and a prince of Oyetunji. After his predecessor's final rites of passage were completed, Akilu was crowned on Aug. 9 by the Lagos state governor, who must also certify the appointment because the oba is an advisor to the government and the people. But the selection wasn't without controversy, with some relatives of the late oba claiming the elders had bowed to political pressure from the governor.

Some critics have also cited the erosion of traditional chiefs, none as strongly in international media star Femi Kuti, who is Yoruba. When in Lagos, he performs at the Adisa Shrine, a concert hall founded by his father, the world-renowned Fela, an actor, activist and political prisoner who died of AIDS in 1997. On good nights, the place is packed with people drinking big bottles of Star beer through straws and smoking kadiyans. "The oba represents nothing," said Kuti. "Oba has been insignificant since the 19th century, and before that they benefited from the slave trade."

Ran has a point. Oba sold captives from rival kingdoms, who were sent off to the

Peddlers hawk a variety of goods in a vast, room-air market in the Nigerian capital



American. British colonists presented to the royal family an elite standing guard at the entrance to the royal palace. The oba was cast in 1894, three years before Britain abolished its slave trade.

Despite Kuti's criticism, Oyetunji, in fact, may have played an important and positive role during the worst years of the military dictatorship when Nigeria was expelled from the Commonwealth in 1995. Military rulers could not traditional chiefs in an attempt to establish a sense of responsibility. In 1997, he accused his chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Olatunde Doyin, of plotting to overthrow him, and invited the oba to watch a supposedly incriminating video. After viewing the tape, the news anchor refused to publicly agree with the president. Tunde Olanubi, a reporter from Punch newspaper, a Nigerian daily, contends that Oyetunji's refusal to blame the officer was in fact a criticism of the regime. "This was something that demanded courage and lion heartedness," he says, "because Akilu was a ruling stone crushing everything in its path."

The old oba was also seen as a figure of religious harmony—if only because he had both Christian and Muslim wives. At the Iba Oba Street mosque in central Lagos, Imam Ibrahim Othman Agoro was delighted to be asked about Oyetunji. "People loved him too much," he responded. "The imam described the monarch as a man of peace and a friend who contributed to the purchase of the mosque's extension, which was rising at the back ground." He considered the life of others like his own life, he said.

Now it's Akilu's turn to make his mark. One thing is certain—the kingdom he inherits is dysfunctional. On Lagos Island, hard and pedestrian such there way between two rows of traffic, less parking than anywhere else. The last streets were here, perhaps because dead rats are rotting in the middle of the road. Sewage, at times several gallons, seeps the open-air gutter. And everyone, it seems, is struggling to make ends meet. Police have set up checkpoints where they routinely extort money. Slating at the back of a crowded minibus, I saw one driver forced down the sidewalk over a hoodlums carefully rolled to look like a beggar. It's *Abudu's* Akilu will overcome widespread petty crime, but as the custodian of Yoruba tradition, the new oba will bring a touch of dignity to a city in dire need of it.

'WIPE THE SLATE CLEAN'

Toronto's baseball boss on the Blue Jays' fortunes, philosophy and future

BLUE JAYS general manager J.P. Ricciardi is considered among the best in the game. After 16 years with the Oakland Athletics, during which he played a big role in building that organization into one of the best ball clubs in the majors, the Worcester, Mass., native accepted an invitation in late 2001 to turn the Toronto Blue Jays into contenders. The 43-year-old is beginning to see results. He recently spoke with *Maclean's* Research Reporter Michael Sauter.

Why did you decide to come to Toronto?

I thought this was a perfect time to come to Toronto and wipe the slate clean. The potential was here to turn things around faster than some other places. And that's part of taking these jobs—to have a fighting chance as opposed to just saying, "Man, there's nothing here. The owner is just going to be dedicated for a while."

What do you look at when scouting a player?

We look at what he's done in the major league—the stats, does he have command of the strike zone, is he a free swinger, does he strike out a lot, what's his average been and whether he hits a lot of home runs. Common sense too. When you buy someone, you check everything, right?

Is the philosophy of the game changing?

Baseball, like most industries, is very slow to change. The old timers will always say, "That's not the way you do it." I've heard people say, "You don't like to lose. You don't like to lose." They throw all these digits at us, but we're second in the American League on wins. So obviously our philosophy is working. Scoring runs hasn't been our problem. It usually has been pitching.

Born Carlos Lirio, the Blue Jays manager. Where was your philosophy?

Yeah, we're on the same page. But you know, I didn't hire Carlos to implement his plan. I hired him to accept our plan. And he knows what his job is. We're going to be



improve this club that's built around scoring a lot of pitching.

Are you where you expected to be over the first 100 games?

We've lost some heartbreakers this year. We're going to build, our like they did in the early 1980s, but we don't have a magic wand to wave and say it's all sudden we've got all this talent. With \$100 million I can go get pitchers like Mike Stanton and Jeff Nelson. But we don't have those resources.

There's nine guys in our club with less than two years' experience. If you take what we've got coming from our minor leagues, then I believe you go to find a team in the big leagues that has a young roster that we do. That's why I didn't think we're that old—it's just a matter of giving some pitching

Do you ever regret making a trade?

The easiest thing to do is regret making a trade. It's a coach's hindsight. When you make a trade, it's well thought-out. For the most part, the trades we make have worked out in our favour. But there's always going to be one that blow up in your face. I don't know anybody who's been in this game who hasn't made a mistake.

How long do want to be GM?

I'm a great guy. I love building. I love being a part of something that's going forward. My life is my job and my family. And at the end of this contract, if that's enough, that's enough. I'd like to be able to do a good enough job to make sure that this organization is financially sound, we have players coming and have a good roster for league years.



DON'T DO IT, PAUL

Martin must resist funding attractive new programs that could lead to deficits

IT IS UNFAIR to assert that a recent, intricately designed report on family policy made my heart sink. But it did. Sure, the two studies so far from the Université du Québec à Montréal have devised a thorough plan on how governments can better assist families with children, especially poorer families. But in the midst of this often inspiring scheme, among its oh-so-careful charts and graphs, there is an extraordinary assertion: families demanding better families in all circumstances receive a universal, non-taxable allowance for each child.

Professors Pierre Lefebvre and Philip Morgan suggest that Ottawa pour billions of dollars into a payment of \$2,000 per year for each child who is five years of age and under, bumping that up to \$2,500 for children who are three and under in the medium term. Older children would get less. The longer term? The study, published by the Institute for Research on Public Policy study, did not elaborate. But it said the benefit would be "the extension of a family policy that places equal value on all children, whatever their parents' income."

The call for a return to universality is a disturbing sign of our endless times. Only eight years ago, Paul Martin discussed the awesome problem with deficits, ever-growing interest payments on our low-interest borrowing, and that the government's revenue, as well as social programs must be funded in good times and bad. One of the key reforms of the last few decades was the gradual elimination of universal, non-taxable family allowances and their replacement with refundable tax credits. Those credits forced money to lower-income families and ease families on welfare into the labour force.

Sure, the system is not perfect. When family incomes approach the cut-off level of approximately \$30,000, no more than each additional dollar of income can be more than 75 per cent used by the benefit is taxed back. But the current scheme is doing some good. In early July, Ottawa reported that only 11.4 per cent of all children lived in poverty in

2006, down from 16 per cent in 1997. "We were able to triple the rate of the benefits because we got rid of horizontal equity," says Queen's University economist Ron Coombes. "We have a fixed amount of money to spend on social policy, making programs universal is really taking money away from the poor. You would be spending to solve something that is a social problem at all."

Where, the very essence of this proposal indicates that provinces to spend are being constrained. With S&UD and and one discrete and western forest fires and inadequate electrical grids, governments already have their hands full. If Paul Martin becomes prime minister, he will want to distinguish himself from Jean Chrétien's lackadaisical final days. And although he is unlikely to adopt this radical proposal, he will have an

WHEN MARTIN becomes prime minister, he will want to distinguish himself from Jean Chrétien's lackadaisical final days

advice agenda that will inevitably involve new spending.

And there will be few forces to curb it. When Martin tackled the deficit, the main opposition in English Canada was the Reform party, which pressed for extra spending cuts. After the next election, his chief opposition will likely come from New Democratic Party leader Jack Layton—sure, tough cookie who grapples public policy and who has no natural grudge for public policy. In mid-July, he held a "uniquely" only where folks roared when a puff of smoke on a portable heater—no protest. Ottawa's lack of funding for public transit. It's a valid case. But it shows there will be few strong voices calling for prudence.

The provinces are no shining exemplars. Thus, the smaller ones have mostly spent

blat into the black after years of deficits. Only P.E.I. and Newfoundland and Labrador will likely be in the red in 2003-2004. But the four larger provinces are having a tougher time. Only Alberta will emerge with a comfortable surplus. Quebec only balanced its books when new Premier Jean Charest took his predecessor's budget. Ontario is trying to trim about \$800 million from spending to avoid a deficit. And British Columbia will be about \$2.5 billion in the red. "Many provinces have large deficits, so it's not surprising that up to date of spending," says Doug Porter, senior economist at RBC's North America. "And health care costs are on track up to 50 per cent of spending."

Internationally, we face no pressure to conform with prudent patterns. Remarkably, Canada is the only G-7 nation not running a deficit. U.S. and Germany's deficits have now swollen to an estimated 4.6 per cent of the size of the economy. Japan's is a mind-boggling 7.7 per cent. "We are the good guys," says a federal finance official in some wonderment. "The only good guys."

What is to stop Ottawa from slipping back into the red when faced with new proposals such as the one on family policy? For starters, Martin is unlikely to budget for a deficit deliberately—frankly because he went through one such to get elected. And the voters are so no more the red ink. Liberal pollster Michael Mansel says Canadians learned their lesson during the mid-1990s. And they have returned it: deficits are bad. Any politician who returns is making a bad political choice. In a poll of 1,675 respondents in early June, fully 67 per cent were very concerned about federal overspending—compared to 34 per cent who feared about unemployment. "Billions more drive the point home about deficits at the 1990s," argues Mansel, "and it has had a lasting impact on our minds. We regard deficits as bad—and we don't want them."

So what does this mean? For starters, Martin should pick his areas with targeted precision. He could, for example, raise the income level at which child benefits are taxed back from families. Or increase the benefit itself. And sometimes, no matter how idealistic, should not even, say, give Ottawa to spend money on such needs—when there is so much else to do.

Mary Margan's column appears every other issue. marymargan@mac.com

THE GIRL FROM GOD'S COUNTRY

She raced dogsleds, ran whitewater, and pioneered the nude scene. KAY ARMITAGE rediscovers Neil Shephard, Canada's first female director, and the original Susan Martine.

She's our forgotten star, a Canadian icon who carved out her own Hollywood North—first as a writer, then as a symbol of silent stardom, and, at last, an actress. From 1919 to 1936, Nell Shipman became famous as the heroine of silent film melodramas, vigilantly set in the wilds of Canada, a land she called “the Great White North.” She worked as a writer, producer, director, star—and, of course, an actress. If she were doing all this today, she would be a one-woman act.

Born in Victoria in 1892, Shipman moved to Seattle with her family at 12 but never lost sight of her Canadian roots. At 15, she left home to join a touring vaudeville troupe. By her mid-20s, she had written and starred in a series of popular silent films based on stories by outdoor adventure writer James Oliver Curwood. Braving wilderness and drama, doggedly, Shipman was our original female action figure. Her biggest hit, *Back to God's Country* (1919), means Canada's earliest silent feature film. And she was the first Canadian woman to direct a movie.

Now her legacy finally gets its due in *Thriller* from *God's Country*. Nell Shipman and the Silent Ontario (UT Press), by Roy Anagnost—professor of film and women's studies at the

University of Toronto—told a recent program with the Toronto International Film Festival, which this year is mounting an unprecedented retrospective of Shipman's work (Sept. 4-12). *Anagnost* relays Nell's roller-coaster life with a fair passion and a scholar's eye, the facts that Shipman, for all her independence and lack of ancestry, was not ahead of her time. “She was precocious of her time,” said *Anagnost*, arguing that the typical of early-20th-century women who were discovering ecology, natural rights, feminism and social liberalism.

What does *Anagnost* tell us in her Canada's sagacity? Not, her productions were American, and her demise was pure Hollywood—marriage by a violent, drunken policeman, she, like so many silent film legends, faded into obscurity as sound and the studio moguls took over. Yet her vision was Canada personified. And now, as this country's cinema still struggles to find a voice, it's interesting to look back at one of our earliest pioneers. Shipman's quotes in these excerpts from *Anagnost*'s book are drawn from her autobiography, *The Silent Screen and My Talking Head*, and her autobiographical novel, *Adventures True*. **BRUCE D. JONESTON**



A Shipman heroine protected her man, defeated the villain and generally saved the day—all the while looking good.



Her biggest hit was promoted by a sketch of a naked woman and this advice to exhibitors: “Don’t Book Back to God’s Country unless You want to prove that the Nude is NOT Rude.”

SIMPERING Gillian Gish with her lips pursed like a little pouty, helpless, naïf-melancholic victim tied to a railroad track waiting for the hero to rescue her from the wicked headbuck, railway fatigues vamping these may be the popular stereotypes of women in the silent cinema, but they are by no means typical of all movie women from the period. With contemporary research, we discover a repressed young bank of energetic modern women who dove automobiles, wore airplanes, openly expressed sexual desire, and even rescued the hapless hero.

Nell Shipman, one of the very few Canadian making feature films in the silent period—appeared in a series of melodramatic adventures in which she played the robust heroine known as the “girl from God’s country.” Soaring above and dogfighting across

The Great White North, she had to protect her husband, defeat the villain and generally save the day, always with the help of a dog and her private use of trained wild animals—usually her pet bear, Browie.

In most of her films, Shipman played the leading role, always of the heroic, strong-willed, or tough woman who either alone or accompanied by her fellow, were injured, or were simply “arrested.” Her American beauty, the easy presence of her body, her great sense of moral justice, and the connection with animals and nature, these are the signs of her contemporary femininity, and undoubtedly the source of the heroism that allowed her to maintain the edge of the woman protagonist as a victim to be rescued.

From the inception of her first association with Curwood to *God’s Country* and the *Wolves*, Nell had become typed as a character

door heroine. In another Curwood feature, *Baron, Son of Kanan* (1918), there was “a dilly of a river scene,” dangerous enough that they had hired a canoe double for Shipman. It was a 30-ft., feet-first free preposterous the surf, if not tamed perfectly, the jumper landed on the rocks instead. The stunt woman was pregnant and terrified by the assignment, so Shipman offered to do it, with the proviso that the stunt woman would be paid anyway. The water was so cold that Shipman pointed out water dripped with the current, and she had to be hurled by the stunt pole plunged into her “long saggy hair” and “beamed on” like a hunk of spaghetti on a revolving fork.

In *A Gentleman’s Agreement* (1918), Shipman narrowly escaped drowning in a scene that involved two men and an overturned canoe. The recent the near-death experience

in mind detail and great length in her memoir, indicating the mark the incident left on her memory even 58 years later: “The leading man wasn’t a very good swimmer, and when we got into that wild, whenever he forgot what he knew I was lucky enough to reach him and we made that big rock out there in the middle. Then poor Jim let go of me—he was scared stiff, you know—and I was swept on downstream towards that place. Can you see it? Where the whole river seems to pour under the rocks? It was ‘bye-bye’ if I let that and there did not seem a chance I wouldn’t, the current was too strong for me and the broad, dark and slippery bar, do you know, over by the bank I saw two little rocks. I thought—‘If the current will only carry me over these I can grab that tiny paradise!’ And it did! I had just time to arise as I was

swung by. The others came running and poling me out, but it was touch-and-go, I can tell you.”

THE CHARACTER of Dolores in *Back to God’s Country* played a dogged 250 lbs across the yard to get her wounded husband to a doctor, physically battling the villain in the process and emerging victorious. As a romantic lead character with no fear of weapons, she holds the villain’s accomplice at gunpoint, then shoots him in the shoulder to free him to assist her. When she loads the gun, she uses a dog to reflect a return of escape and rescue. Active, competent, courageous and self-reliant women may be found in other genres such as the westerns, but rarely in the westerns of the period.

In *Back to God’s Country*, Shipman’s delicate frame of lusciousness to cover not only

in nature, but as a novel. As Dolores is bathing in a glorious mountain pool, the villain looms at her through the bushes and hush their dueling plan. The scene was first shot with Shipman wearing a modest flesh-colored woad bathing costume. After the first take, when she saw the thick woad bath and writhed about her body, Shipman firmly stopped it, shedding the costume and directing the cinematographer so that the scene was shot without any prudish while still making her undressed first simply evident. The gesture was recognized at a time when melodramatic heroines were marked by Gish-like modesty, and many applaud her authority in scenes of erotic debauchery. In her autobiography, her characteristic sense of humor prevails, as the reason that, because Dolores is with her by the pool, she captured the scene “In a Dash Pool with her Behind.”



She adds proudly, "I think that a beautiful foreign import [Van Taylor] was photographed in the male in a feature called *Ecstasy* but I really was 'he'."

The movie was advertised with posters featuring a drawing of Shipman pulling a shawl across her evidently naked body as she stood knee-deep in water. In the trade papers, the promotion was even more explicit, featuring a sketch of a naked female body arching lyrically on top, with the advice to exhibitors: "Don't Skop Back to GoshCountry unless you want to prove that the Nude is NOT Nude."

Although it is not uncommon today to think of women who lived a century ago as hopelessly encumbered in outmoded standards—they must have been so—Shipman, poetess, and sexually repressed—Shipman's autobiography and her autobiographical

brother the bear was a star player among the 130 animals in Shipman's private zoo.

novel paint a very different picture. She represents herself as a mostly experienced and without any mystification or shyness of being a "house woman." In *Abandonment* Paula Nell, who had become Canadian in recent times, Shipman's fourth wife in 1910, presents her extramarital relationship with her film company manager from Van Taylor as being so to the world of nature, as natural as the flow of the Nile in NUBIA.

SHIPMAN'S back to GoshCountry was a short distance from her home in northern Alberta. The cast and crew travelled by train to Lesser Slave Lake—the middle of nowhere, about 150 km north of Edmonton. There was no train station, no hotel, just a snow

drift. The village was "nothing but a collection of fishermen's shacks on the shore of an ice-bound lake." The cabins had stoves and kettles, but you could "stuck a pin through the cracks" and the crew came drifting in. The dining hall was "an un-painted board shack with a long table running its length. The table was made of three planks and the benches were single boards." In this desolate and numbingly cold location the Hollywood director's wife had packed formal evening clothes!

Shipman's autobiography reports that they shot out before, in which Dufresne "smiled endless camera smiles across the frozen waters," in temperatures of 60 below. They loaded film in black-changing bags on the dirt floor of our filthy cabins. The men shivered and ate rations the berries. Our company manager, Bert Van Taylor, suf-

fered a frozen foot. Leading man Ronald Byrnes contracted pneumonia—"from which he eventually died."

American scholar Tim Trask's note on the episode offers an amusing addition to the story: "Van Taylor repaired to a hotel in San Francisco to cure his Lesser Slave Lake frostbite. Meeting the advice of an Alaskan woodsman, he had met on the train heading south from Canada to California. [He] ordered bellboys to bring him a whisky, a beer, a cigar and a bottle of whisky, and proceeded to smoke, smoke, and smoke." Later, after going back, he set in, and on Van Taylor's right foot were amputated.

Shipman came through the material discomfort, extraordinarily hard work, and fit routine temptations not only unaffected but, in her stylish dress, with the very grace of a head, looking extremely smart as well. She was not only dressed suitably, but the presence of the material, a four-point Hudson's Bay Company blanket, was the perfect with Canadiana. In Shipman's film and Curwood's novels, GoshCountry is always Canada, usually in its most far-flung reaches—due to the harsh, horizontal landscape.

a large pane, a dining table and an overhead shower. Whereas small animals such as raccoons, squirrels, chipmunks, a skunk and a desert rat named Ignatius had runs and cages, a small grey deer for a few not cages, preferring to ride on Shipman's shoulders. Rabbits and Rabbits, a pair of wild bobcats, had the run of the house.

Shipman delighted in taking bear and dog down to her. "Bear and Cattle used to ride in the back seat of the old National without leashes, each with a head thrust out as they took the breeze. The effect on even the sparse traffic of that day was brilliant. I'd park downtown and go into a store and leave the pair in the car. Guarded by Laddie, Brownie would stay in the back seat but would perform gymnastics, clanking himself on the top brace or standing on his head to clown for the sidewalk audience. The police asked me not to bring the bear downtown. The next day traffic."

In 1922 Shipman moved her home, production company and zoo to Upper British Columbia in the Idaho wilderness. She lived with one Barry and partner Van Taylor in a log cabin 21 miles from the nearest road. Their last Christmas together, in 1925, is



Shipman was plagued by her disastrous selections of men, including one with as many aliases as he had creditors

LEAVING HER HUSBAND and her partnership with Curwood behind, Shipman returned to southern California to make movies independently. She bought a house in Hollywood Park, where the land with her was, Barry, a housekeeper, the cattle Laddie, and Brownie were the bear Van Taylor's creature on the next-door lot, where Nell did the editing of the movies.

She had purchased the zoo of wild animals used in *Back to GoshCountry* as part of the severance agreement after the dissolution of her partnerships with Curwood and Curwood. The collection also included a little Indian boy named a Siberian wolf. The zoo eventually became the largest privately owned collection of wild animals in the United States.

Because the bear's residence was carved out of the hillside and came complete with

worship of my *Indo-European* was a 22-year-old actor, Van Taylor—24—has come from New York for a career in the movies. As the movie plays music and the cardinals, Shipman and the young man began to dance and then Van Taylor, drunk and excited from the joys of a generous feast (still affected years after the feast) rises ready as he points a gun at Shipman. In her "high-heeled pumps, silk stockings and corset de Chine dress," she stumbles towards the lake to kill herself.

Barry follows, screaming, and eventually gun her to the nearest shelter of a "partially reared, half-wild" film act.

At dawn, Shipman and Barry watch Van Taylor and the young man take off in the dog sled, heading for the hospital. Relief all around, until, later that day, Van Taylor appears. As a 15-year-old Barry holds off Van

Taylor with a .22 rifle, he and his mother lock themselves in the bathroom for the night end, fearing that Van Taylor has not died. Still, leave quietly on snowshoes at first light. When they finally arrive in Spokane, Wash., Shipman collapses for five days.

BY 1925, Van Taylor was gone. Nell Shipman Productions was bankrupt, and the land lord sent the bulldozer to seize the animals. Shipman owed \$795 to her landlord, who sought a court-ordered auction of 190 animals. She succeeded in blocking the auction, and her wildlife collection was eventually consigned to the San Diego Zoo. The *Prior River Times* noted that "about 40 animals and birds" were some of them, including "dogs, bears, deer, wildcats, wolves, skunk, eagle, raven, possum, coon, and other small animals." However the bear was in the shipment.

Shipman never lost her love of animals. In her old age, long after her company had gone bankrupt and her wild animals were dispersed, raccoons, dogs and cats lived with her in her house.

AFTER SHE LEFT Van Taylor, Shipman married artist Charles Ayers. For the duration of the marriage, she supported herself and her family as a writer, mostly of novels and magazine articles, until Ayers became afflicted with permanent mental block due to the humiliation of being rejected by his wife. She let him go. But she remained plagued by her disastrous selection of male partners. After Ayers, she took up with a man who had as many aliases as he had creditors, and located around America with his list nearly 30 years, obscenely concealing his identity to revive her career.

Shipman went through numerous depressions. Despite that, and the horror of dire poverty, she continued to write. Shipman had a powerful of poems to Bill. In 1939, she and her fourth partner moved to Bismarck. Because her third Underwood had been bought for \$40 and returned in California, for a time she had a second typewriter. When they could no longer afford the typewriter, she had to write by hand, when there was no money for stationary, she wrote on the back of old movie clip sheets.

In 1970, Shipman died alone and broke, with the manuscript of her autobiography waiting for publication. ■

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People | Definitely not your parents' opera

Open-minded. Experimental. Not many people would use those words to describe opera. But jazz parent composer **D.D. Jackson** does. And when he explains what he means, it's hard not to agree. Unlike musical theatre—which, as the composer of the off-Broadway hit *Mythologues*, he also knows something about—opera, he says, doesn't demand "everything be completely clear and explained to you from the beginning." That may make jazz and opera perfect bedfellows.

That's what *Guil'ph Jazz Terminal* represents on track on which they premiere the jazz-opera *Quebecink*, on Sept. 5. They're

also counting on the sheer amount of talent behind it: even provocative artistic director **Aljo Hefble** commissioned the production for the festival's 50th anniversary; Governor **Cauchemez** is sponsoring; and **Guil'ph Clark** penned the words, a stellar lineup of jazz, gospel, Portuguese folk and R & B and jazz musicians will bring it to life, and the Ottawa-born New York City-based Jackson wrote the music. He also provided fodder for the story line: A memoir written by his African-American father and Chinese-born

Colombian-grewed and mixed-race songwriter Jackson serves up another genre

mother helped inspire Clark's *Baroque* about two mixed-race couples living in Quebec City.

Like the *Guil'ph One*—several itself, Jackson, 36, knows how to push the limits of jazz. He's worked the avant-garde scene with the likes of vibraphonist **Billy Bang** and tenor sax man **David Murray**, and written a sweeping jazz-orchestral arrangement for his latest CD, *Suite for New York*. *Quebecink* (which will also be performed at the Vancouver Fair Grounds Centre on Oct. 17 and 18), he insists, is on the accessible end of the spectrum. "There's always been a melodic bone in my music," he says or sings, "who can resist a good tune?" **SUE PERLROTH**

Books | CARTOGRAPHERS' EYES ON A NORTHERN PRIZE

The love of the North has captivated adventurers from ancient times, from the 15th to the 19th centuries. They travelled it looking for a passage to Asia, looking for explorers have white of the Arctic looking for oil or diamonds. Others through history have quested for the North Pole, often with disastrous results. The *Historical Atlas of the Arctic* (Douglas & McIntyre) provides fascinating greater overview of all those quests, and more. Compiled and written by Derek Hayes, whose earlier works include the *Historical Atlas of British Columbia* and the *Pacific North West* and the *Historical Atlas of Canada*, the book features more than 300 maps ranging from some of the earliest cartographic depictions of the North to a contemporary digital rendition of the Arctic seaboard's topography. There are also historical graphics showing the region's religious peoples and the famed Franklin expedition, as well as archival photographs of dog teams, submarines and aircraft—even a balloon—destined for the top of the world.



BESTSELLERS

Fiction

	PREVIOUS LAST WEEK
1. THE WINTER WOODS by D. Jordan (N)	1
2. THE CARPENTER OF THE WOOD IN THE WOOD by Jordan (N)	2
3. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	3
4. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	4
5. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	5
6. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	6
7. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	7
8. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	8
9. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	9
10. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	10
11. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	11
12. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	12

Non-fiction

1. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	1
2. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	2
3. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	3
4. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	4
5. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	5
6. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	6
7. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	7
8. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	8
9. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	9
10. THE WINTER WOODS by Jordan (N)	10

11. **THE WINTER WOODS** by Jordan (N)

12. **THE WINTER WOODS** by Jordan (N)

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WINNING IS EVERYTHING...

for the Liberals. That's why Paul Martin and Jean Chrétien sound so alike lately.

THE OLDEST RULE of political organization book a room too small for the crowd. Makes the crowd look bigger. So in the federal Liberal's late summer caucus room began, a maddeningly big hotel ballroom in North Bay, Ont., was pressed into service for one of Jean Chrétien's last important speeches to his troops. MPs, senators and political staffers squeezed into the venue like so many sardines without space to move, hoping for someone about town the bigger will handle his last fall season in their leader.

He talked about peace, prosperity, respect, dignity. Sincere words of applause. Equality. Clap-clap. Protecting the environment. Yawn.

Then he talked about... victory!... and they stood to cheer their delight. This party knows to perform.

"Only two prime ministers in Canadian history—Macdonald, King and Lester Pearson—have turned their party over to a new leader who has won the most elections," he said. "I want to be the third."

It was hard to tell amid the roar, but I thought the little host of Grits around Paul Martin was cheering loudly of all.

The Liberals have spent more than a year, ever since Martin left the cabinet, divided into factions. A growing element stood for Martin. A thinking bench stood against. The families, both able in dignity, neither had any. It was such a wacky year that of course everyone expects the nation to continue here in North Bay, with the same-sex marriage debate ending once again as a proxy for continued love-betting between the party's alpha males.

Everyone expects it, so it didn't happen, or at least not the way we thought it would. Instead, this party's highest vote, winning, it mumps everything else, even money. What is why, for nearly a decade, Chrétien and Martin made such a formidable team even though each might prefer to see the other dethroned. For as long as their terms continued they could go along. It turns out they haven't entirely lost the touch.

Martin spent July and half of August searching for an alternative to the confusions Chrétien reached in June before deciding there weren't any. "The caucus' decision to permit gay marriage was based on Pierre Trudeau's Charter of Rights. No Liberal government would appeal such a ruling. No Liberal government would cut the Charter's "neverwithstanding" clause to trump rights. Having discerned which way the parade would go, Martin got out in front of it.

Pure self-interest made him turn his back



day-morning smooch into the latest gift he has given Chrétien in years. When we questioned him on same-sex marriage he quipped the government down the line. No appeal to higher courts, no "neverwithstanding," no support for any measure that would "take away acquired rights."

Oh sure, Martin played his grand dramatic tune, misting backbench Liberals to declare "alternatives" to gay marriage all they like. But he took care to set the bar for any alternative at calling himself it, at once Chrétien proof and it must not attack of "separate but equal" accommodation. Chre-

tien's speech that night in the cramped ballroom made nearly identical arguments. The two men hadn't coordinated their remarks. They didn't have to. One has to govern. The other will soon. It makes them think alike.

The next day Dan McTeague, an amazing Ontario MP who is drawn to reporters' microphones the way moths are drawn to streetlights, suggested a referendum on gay marriage. Once again Martin's and Chrétien's responses were separate but equal. "You don't use majority rule to decide minority rights, each way. For that delicate task, you need the accommodations built into our constitution and parliament."

The sight of the two big boys playing from the same page put the assembled Grits into a better mood than they've felt in ages. Two nights running they ran the western ragged at Chrétien's, a fine restaurant, dining and cooing in groups whose composition blamed the night lines of fiction that have divided them for a year. I ran into an MP who'd told me as early as 1999 the worst Chrétien action has been after "one more Canada Day." Now the couldn't stop talking about his speech to the troops. "It's so brilliant, what the boss said," she gushed.

Don't go me wrong. The gay marriage bill has this caucus badly divided. MPs came out of Wednesday's first long caucus meeting shaking their heads in surprise at which so long as was co-witch side. But it's an honest disagreement about policy, not a version of the Chrétien-Martin eye match.

Their long rivalry is nearly over now. The two still play for temporary advantage. Chrétien keeps on pointing out the precise date of his departure. But meanwhile, men close to Chrétien and Martin have quietly begun discussing the technical details of a transition, matters of staffing and the like. So-and-so might want to look for work elsewhere. Things like that.

Chrétien's Tuesday night speech bared his billie he wants to pass this measure and now can't he'll be happy to pass if it's the first we go well. The seventh is a change to electoral riding boundaries, a high priority for Martin. The first Nations Government Act, still like this isn't worth an, is now on Chrétien's list. As for them pointed out in one of his songs, negotiations and how some are often misused for one and the same.

See cover of Backpage/Newsweek 23

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